Army major spills beans on Gringo in mutiny probe

Story on PAGE A2

US doctors opting for lifestyle over pay

SORRY, OFF NA AKO... BUKAS NA TAYO MAG EMERGENCY

CHICAGO—The stereotype of the rich doctor might be due for some surgery.

An increasing number of medical students are picking their specialty based on the lifestyle it permits, including more

US/ A4

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Thursday, September 4, 2003 ★★ 42 pages / 4 sections / vol. 18 / no. 268 P15 website: www.inq7.net

Danding Cojuangco still in the running

DON'T count him out yet.

Businessman Eduardo Cojuangco Jr. has offered himself as a possible pro-business, free-market alternative to President Macapagal-Arroyo in next year's presidential election.

Cojuangco, who took a low profile following the July 11 Sandiganbayan ruling that he illegally acquired the United Co-

DANDING/ A4

Coup will fail, says GMA

Gloria Gaynor hit song 'I Will Survive' marks President's arrival from Brunei

By Gil Cabacungan Jr.

SHE will survive.

A confident President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday declared that she would crush all destabilization attempts with the bureaucracy and the military solidly behind her administration.

The President arrived in a Lear jet from Brunei 2:30 p.m. at the 250th airlift wing of the Villamor Air Base, where she was met by military and police personnel and thousands of civil servants hoisting banners proclaiming "101-percent support."

As though to scorn the coup rumors besieging her administration, the Gloria Gaynor hit song "I Will Survive" was playing as she climbed the stage to lead the celebration of the 103rd anniversary of the Philippine Civil Service.

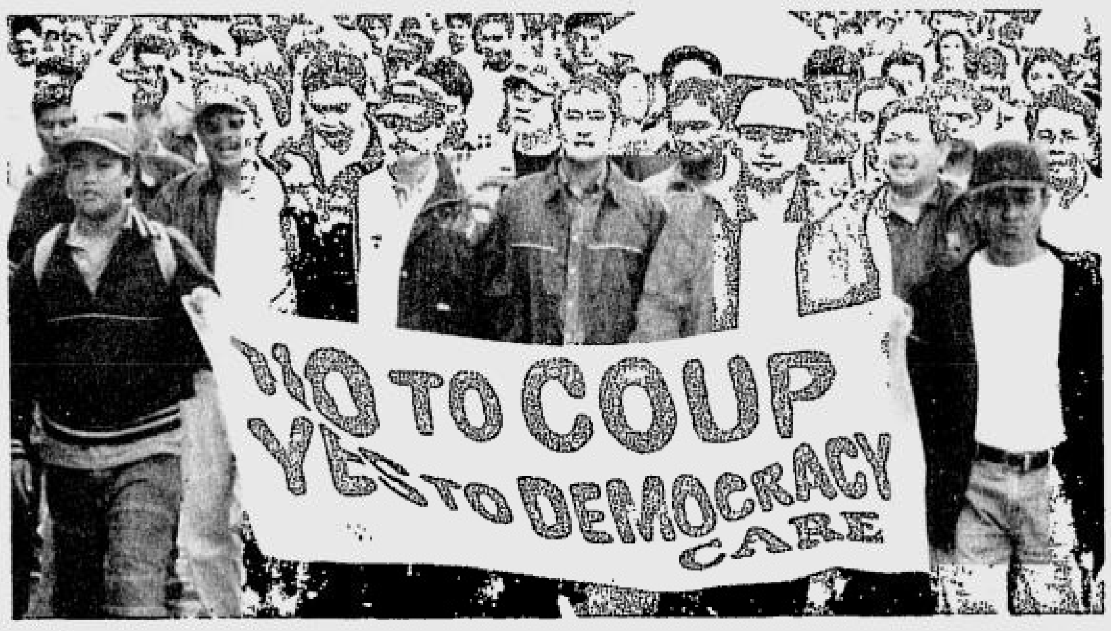
In her speech, Ms Macapagal thanked the leadership of the Armed Forces for standing firm in the face of the supposed attempts of certain groups to buy loyalty in the military, manipulate the media and project instability.

She attributed these attempts to "certain personalities engaged in a continuous effort at destabilization, obviously to escape the long hand of justice."

"With our 2-million-strong bureaucracy supporting democracy,

COUP/ A16

PRESIDENT Macapagal: The entire chain of command is behind us, and there is no turning back from the tide of positive change, whether in the military organization, in the civilian bureaucracy and in the entire nation. EDWIN BACASMAS



MR. SLAVE
HAYOP KUNG DUMISKARTE... GRABE KUNG MANGURAKOT!
GMA
KURAKOT
PATALSIKIN!

PRESIDENT Macapagal's province mates (at left) march on Edsa to declare their solidarity with their kabalen in Malacañang. In Makati City, militant groups stage an anticorruption rally in front of the LTA Building owned by the First Couple.

JOAN BONDOC
ERIK ARAZAS

Kabalens hold pro-GMA rally at Edsa

By Tonette Orejas and Jun Malig
PDI Central Luzon Desk

PERTURBED by threats of another destabilization plot, about 1,000 people, including President Macapagal's eldest son and three staunch political followers, yesterday mounted an "anticoup" rally at the People Power Monument along Edsa in Quezon City.

Among those who supported the rally was the President's son, Pampanga Vice Gov. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo, Gov. Manuel Lapid, National Housing Authority chief Ed Pamintuan, and Caloocan City Mayor Rey Malonzo.

The demonstrators, mostly local officials and residents of Pampanga, had planned to launch the first of a series of protest actions at the Edsa Shrine but were prevented by soldiers and policemen wielding truncheons.

Leaders of the Coalition for the Advancement of the Promises of Edsa

KABALENS/ A15

Destabilization moves neutralized, says Golez

By Cynthia D. Balana, TJ Burgonio and Alcuin Papa

THE GOVERNMENT is countering the activities of a group engaged in destabilization moves, including talk that five generals had quit to pave the way for a military junta, National Security Adviser Roilo Golez said yesterday.

Golez refused to name the group but said the government was fully aware of its moves and its members.

"The government is taking very firm preemptive action and so far has been able to neutralize destabilization efforts. But we expect that these are going to continue, also because of this group's political objectives," he said at a press briefing in Malacañang.

One of the supposed destabilization moves, Golez said, was the rumor that the generals had resigned to bring about a breakdown in the chain of command and install Vice President Teofisto Guingona as head of a junta.

He said the rumor was baseless and that Guingona, whom he described as a very patriotic man, would not be party to such an activity.

Guingona himself refused to be drawn

DESTABILIZATION/ A16

Angara: Too late in the day for summit

By Christine O. Avendaño and Armand Nocum

IT MAY be too late in the day to convene a political summit in a highly charged political atmosphere, opposition Sen. Edgardo Angara said yesterday.

Angara said the only "meaningful summit for which political leaders ought to be dragged into is to ensure that the 2004 elections are honest, regular, and legitimate, and will actually occur."

In an interview with ANC Channel, he said that such a summit was the only way to defuse the tension and "false rumors that former intelligence chief Brig. Gen. Victor Corpus is now spreading that there is another coup in the offing."

Corpus the other day said that destabilization efforts against the Macapagal administration would continue until the 2004 presidential election.

Angara also said that President Macapagal-Arroyo should reiterate at the summit that she would not run in the presidential election in May. "Then the whole atmosphere will change again and it will be an atmosphere of less tension, more cordiality and more political civility," he said.

Angara said it was the President's "duty

ANGARA/ A15

Drilon urges Lacson to produce bank documents

By Christine O. Avendaño and Michael Lim Ubac

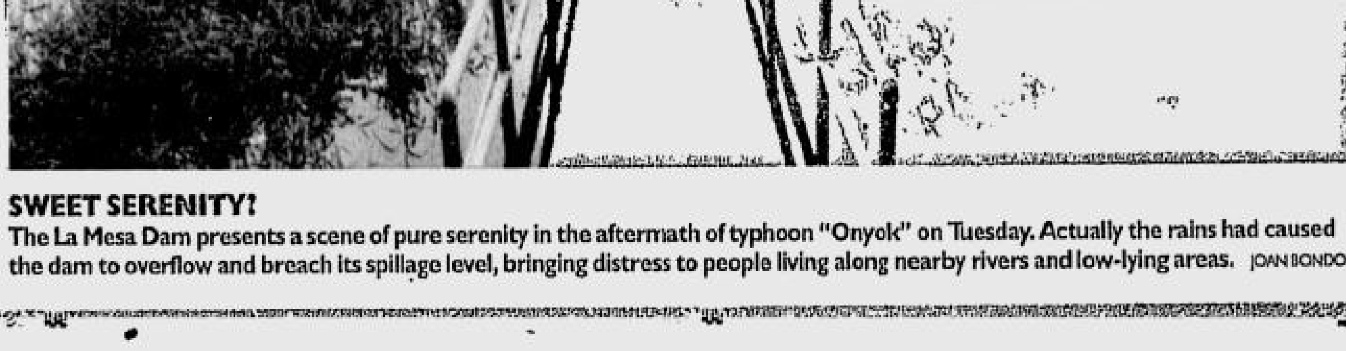
BECAUSE the Senate could not compel banks to produce documents due to the Bank Secrecy Law, Senate President Franklin Drilon urged Sen. Panfilo Lacson yesterday to produce the original documents to prove his allegation that First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo was the owner of multimillion-peso bank accounts.

The Union Bank-Perea branch and Bank of the Philippine Islands-Ayala branch declined to confirm or deny the existence of the alleged dummy accounts of Arroyo under the names of Kelvin Tan, Thomas Toh and Victoria Toh, because of the Bank Secrecy Law. But the two banks said they had no Jose Pidal account.

The International Exchange Bank-Perea branch also invoked the Bank Secrecy Law when it said it was neither confirming nor denying the existence of a Jose Pidal account or of the other alleged dummy accounts of Arroyo.

Sen. Robert Barbers said officials of the branches of the Bank of the Philippine Islands, Union Bank and International Exchange Bank on Perea Street in Makati had made known their position

DRILON/ A15



SWEET SERENITY?

The La Mesa Dam presents a scene of pure serenity in the aftermath of typhoon "Onyok" on Tuesday. Actually the rains had caused the dam to overflow and breach its spillage level, bringing distress to people living along nearby rivers and low-lying areas. JOAN BONDOC

Chavit says Ping exposé 'chismis'

By Christian V. Esguerra

LONG on *chismis* (gossip) but short on evidence.

This was how former Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson yesterday described the exposé of Sen. Panfilo Lacson against First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo.

"You can't convince a nation to believe you by simply coming up with rumors," Singson said of Lacson's allegations.

Singson, who monitored last Tuesday's Senate hearing on Lacson's exposé, said it was apparent that the senator had nothing solid against Ar-

CHAVIT/ A4

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2003

Second FRONT PAGE

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Western Luzon and Western Visayas will experience occasional rains. The rest of Luzon and Visayas will be cloudy with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. Mindanao will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: RAY LEYESA, PDI RESEARCH/09/04/03

Metro Manila	Occasional Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Occasional Rains
Baguio	Occasional Rains	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Occasional Rains	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Occasional Rains	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Occasional Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy
Calapan	Occasional Rains	Davao	Partly Cloudy

FELICIANO COMMISSION

Army major spills beans on Honasan

By Volt Contreras and TJ Burgonio

THE FELICIANO Commission investigating the July 27 failed coup yesterday heard the testimony of a government witness against opposition Sen. Gregorio Honasan in a closed-door session because of the "sensitive nature" of his revelations.

RAGIL: 'It's no joke'

FELICIANO: Probing Oakwood mutiny

But before the executive session, Army Maj. Perfecto Ragil had told reporters why he had decided to accuse Honasan as being the mastermind of the failed uprising.

"I could see things could get worse...so I thought it was high time I disclosed who was really responsible," Ragil said in Filipino.

Also yesterday, Armed Forces Chief Narciso Abaya ordered the release of 47 junior officers who were linked to the rebellion, saying they had been misled by the ringleaders of the mutiny which the government said was part of a larger conspiracy to overthrow the government and install a 15-member junta.

Ragil, a communications officer with the Presidential Security Group, has executed an affidavit saying he saw Honasan at a June 4 recruitment meeting of rebel soldiers in a house in San Juan.

He believed the ringleaders had tried to recruit him because his work with the PSG involved handling communication lines in Malacañang.

In the same sworn statement which the police had used to file coup d'état charges against the senator, Ragil claimed that Honasan had presided over a blood compact ceremony with the coup recruits.

He said he only decided to come out several days after the rebellion was quashed as he did not have a complete picture of who were involved.

"It's not easy to accuse a member of the Senate. It's no joke. Who will believe me if I'll be the only one talking?" he said.

Just before Ragil took the stand, lawyer Roberto San Juan, one of the commission's counsels, asked the panel to hear the testimony behind closed doors because of the "sensitive nature of the details (he will reveal) in addition to those contained in his affidavit."

De Leon also told the fact-finding panel that Ragil's affidavit was still under preliminary investigation at the justice department.

Last week, Interior Secretary Jose Lina said 26 young officers also filed sworn statements claiming Honasan had been present in several recruitment meetings long before the one cited by Ragil.

The 47 officers who were ordered released were among 136 officers whose names were included in the master list of mutineers culled from diskettes recovered from the Oakwood Premier hotel in the Ayala Center which the rebel soldiers had seized and held for more than 19 hours on July 27.

The 136 officers are different from the 356 officers and enlisted personnel who are being investigated by the military's Judge Advocate General Office for violations of the Articles of War.

Fifty-six enlisted personnel have so far been subjected to a pretrial investigation and notified of the charges against them. Some have submitted affidavits claiming they were misled by their seniors into joining the rebellion.

Abaya said the 47 officers—41 from the Army and six from the Marines—had been recruited in several meetings and participated in blood compact rites but were misled about the true purpose of the meetings and rituals.

He said they did not take part in the occupation of Oakwood although their names appeared on the list of officers recruited for the rebellion.

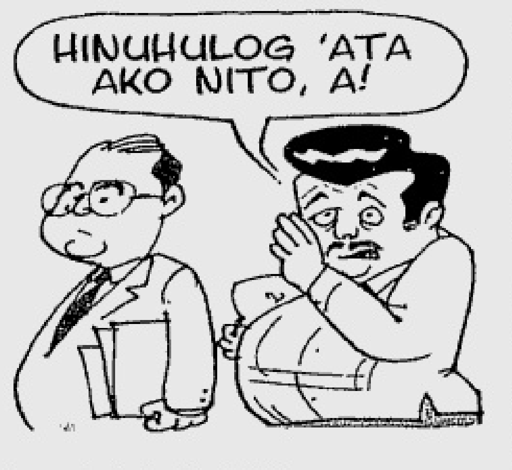
The officers however would receive appropriate punishment under Article of War 105 for their "apparent lapses in joining dubious organizations," Abaya said.

COLLAPSIBLE TENTS
FOR: OPEN GARAGE • BEACHES • OUTDOOR PARTIES
TYPE A CARPORT OR PARTY TENT
TYPE B ENCLOSED FIXED CAR PORT OR TEMPORARY STORAGE
TYPE C SIMILAR TO TYPE A
WINDOW AWNING WE ALSO MAKE AWNING FOR WINDOWS
MODEL TYPES PRICES
A P 8,500.00 P 7,000.00
B P 22,000.00
C P 6,300.00
SQR P 5,500.00 P 4,500.00 P 3,500.00
D P 4,200.00
RENTAL PER DAY
P 1,200.00 P 650.00 P 3,200.00
COLORS AVAILABLE WHITE • GRAY • BLUE • GREEN
**PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE W/OUT PRIOR NOTICE
FREE DELIVERY
triplex Auto Detailing & Trading
Tent Sales and Rental
28 KJ cor K6 St Kamias Rd QC
Tel 928-1486 • Telefax 929-5803

CONTRADICTORY PETITION

Erap lawyer tests SC patience

By Gerald G. Lacuarta


HINUHULOG 'ATA AKO NITO, A!

FORMER President Joseph Estrada's lawyer has gone to the Supreme Court to appeal a decision of the Sandiganbayan, and yet in the same petition, he wants the high court's justices to disqualify themselves from resolving the appeal.

If this does put the Supreme Court in limbo, then it will surely test the justices' patience, if not incur their ire.

Either way, lawyer Alan Paguia does not expect the Supreme Court to grant his petition.

The controversial lawyer filed yesterday the petition with the tribunal questioning the Sandiganbayan's jurisdiction over the plunder case against the ousted president and at the same time asking the justices to inhibit themselves.

Paguia himself said that the SC will be in limbo if it grants his motion for disqualification of Chief Justice Hilario Davide and the rest of the justices on the grounds that they were partisan against his client and in favor of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

"There will be a crisis. There will be no one (to resolve the petition)," Paguia said, hours after filing the 12-page petition.

Aside from the disqualification of Davide and other justices, Paguia's petition sought the setting aside of four resolutions of the Sandiganbayan dismissing several motions by Estrada. It also sought dismissal of the plunder case pending with the Sandiganbayan for lack of jurisdiction.

Paguia said "more likely they [SC justices] will just dismiss the petition."

"If they disqualify themselves they will have to dismiss the cases (pending in the Sandiganbayan) altogether because if they disqualify, they are admitting that they prejudged the case of Estrada vs Arroyo," Paguia said.

In a ruling on March 2, 2001, the SC, voting 13-0, declared the Macapagal administration as legitimate and removed Estrada's presidential immunity from suit.

In asking that Davide and the other justices disqualify themselves, Paguia cited Rule 5.10 of the Code of Judicial Conduct which prohibits judges from participating in partisan activities to avoid suspicion of political partisanship.

"By participating in Edsa II which is obviously a partisan political activity, the Honorable Justices of the Supreme Court lost the appearance and substance of the cold neutrality of an impartial just which is an indispensable ingredient of due process of law," Paguia's petition stated.

The petition said the SC justices also prejudged the controversy regarding the presidency even before Estrada could file his petition before the high tribunal.

Paguia said in the interview that he was asking that all justices inhibit themselves from deciding on the petition to set aside the Sandiganbayan resolutions and dismiss the plunder case for the Sandiganbayan's lack of jurisdiction because they have shown prejudgement against Estrada when they upheld the legitimacy of the Macapagal administration.

Paguia said the dismissal of the petition would prove Estrada's oft-repeated complaint that he will not get a fair trial under the justice system.

"Estrada cannot expect anything under existing legal processes. Only the political option would be left for him to consider. He will leave it to the Filipinos to decide," Paguia said in an interview.

Paguia said by filing the latest petition, Estrada had exhausted all legal remedies available to him.

Religion not a factor in family planning

BAGUIO CITY—Religion is not a major factor why most married Filipino women avoid the use of contraceptives, results of a survey showed.

Religious groups, particularly the Catholic Church, frown on the use of contraceptives as a method of birth control and instead promote natural family planning methods such as rhythm.

But for married Filipino women, most of them Catholics, religion is hardly a factor for their non-use of contraceptives.

Based on the 2002 family planning survey conducted by the National Statistics Office, religion was ranked 11th of 16 reasons cited by respondents for the avoidance of contraceptives.

The NSO survey showed that the desire to have children was the biggest factor for not using contraceptives.

This was cited by 18.5 percent of the 16,625 respondents surveyed by the NSO.

Their concern for their health (13.3 percent) was the second factor, followed by their anxiety over the contraceptives' possible side effects on them (12.6 percent).

"Old or difficult to get pregnant" was a fourth choice (11.2 percent); 8.7 percent said they were having infrequent sex; while 8.1 percent said they were in the menopausal stage.

Only 2.3 percent cited religion as the reason for their non-use of contraceptives.

For demographers, the results of the survey were not surprising, saying that religion did not really matter in women's choices in the past.

Dr. Alejandro Herrin, a professor at the University of the Philippines School of Economics, said surveys since 1968 already showed that religion was a non-factor in the avoidance of contraceptives.

Among urban women, the NSO survey showed, religion was even less of a factor with only 0.8 percent [their 14th choice] choosing it as reason for not using contraceptives. For rural women, religion was the 9th reason.

By age groups, those belonging to the 15-19 age bracket are most likely not to use contraceptives (81.2 percent) followed by those between 45 and 49 years old (63.6 percent).

The survey also showed that more than 80 percent of those with no formal education do not use contraceptives compared to 50 percent of college graduates or undergraduates.

Religious leaders strongly oppose any form of contraception because these run counter to the teachings of the church. This issue has been a major irritant between the church and the state due to the latter's population policy.

But Herrin said the government and the Catholic Church could still work together on issues such as population policy and family planning.

In his paper entitled "Lack of Consensus Characterizes Philippine Population Policy," Herrin said the pastoral letter by Bishop Antonio Ledesma of the Ipil, Zamboanga-Sibuguey diocese is a sign that collaboration between the church and government on family planning is workable.

Ledesma has suggested the possibility of moving from the church's earlier position of "critical non-collaboration" with the government to a "principled collaboration" with respect to family planning. *Frank Cimatu, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Are the mice playing when the cat is away?
TO SUPERVISE OFFICE
- Prevent wastage, pilferage, burglary
- Monitor daily routines and employee behavior
- Increase production, prevent wastage
- Monitor your cash register
TO SUPERVISE MAIDS/VISITORS AT HOME
- Monitor and record your home when you're out
- Prevent and deter criminal activity
For more info, visit or call us at:
Star Value Electronics, Inc.
Address: 37 Samat Street, SMH, 1114, Quezon City
Tel: (63-2)416-0936 to 0938 Fax: (63-2)416-0935
Email: starvalue@starcomm com.ph
STAR EYE
we also have remote monitoring
Dealers, freelance agents welcome!

Advertising
pinches
the Pinoy heart.

pana 45 Years
Celebrate
Advertisers Month
SEPTEMBER 2003

LAGOS DEL SOL
RESORT
Lake Caliraya, Cavinti, Laguna
"3rd Quarter Triple Treat"
P1,200.00/ 1st & 2nd Person
P1,100.00/ 3rd Person Sharing Room
MINIMUM OF 21 PERSONS, OVERNIGHT STAY
Triple sharing, buffet service breakfast, lunch, dinner and plate service pm snack, welcome drinks, use of conference room with audio-visual equipment and flowing freshly brewed coffee during session hours.
No Service Charge
PROMO EXTENDED UNTIL September 30, 2003
For more information you may contact us at Aloha Hotel, 2150 Roxas Boulevard, cor. Quirino Ave., Malate, Manila or call us at Tel. Nos.: 523-1827 or 30 • 526-8088 loc. 120/152 • 523-1835 • 303-3106/07 Telefax: 526-0687
RESORT No.: 0919540 0758 / 68/ 78 / 88 / 98

Absentee listing a bust

THE CAMPAIGN to register 2.5 million overseas Filipinos for the coming 2004 polls appears headed for failure.

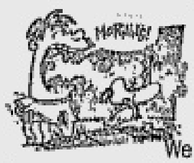
Commission on Elections figures showed that only 93,255 Filipinos worldwide registered for the whole month of August, less than four percent of the original target of 2.5 million.

Records showed that Filipinos in the Asia-Pacific region accounted for 61,341.

More than half of this figure, 38,273, were based in Hong Kong.

This was followed by Filipinos based in the Middle East and Africa which accounted for 28,681.

In Europe, only 9,861 Filipinos registered while 3,972 Filipinos in North and Latin America showed up.



If your breath smells death...

... It's about time you visit our clinic. We offer an effective, safe and discreet solution to problems caused by bad breath. We use a unique bacteria locator, the HALIMETER apparatus followed by patented medication & treatment.

Also Available: Teeth Bleaching | **Dental Clinic For Sale/Sharing**

Suite #224 Atrium Bldg., Makati Ave., Makati City
Tel. No. 811-4071 • 752-4735

REMINDER

Tomorrow, September 5, 2003 is FIRST FRIDAY.

The FOUNDATION is giving away to the Devotees to the Sacred Heart of Jesus FREE Novenas in English and all dialects; also Statues of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and of Saint Anthony for Chapels, Schools, Offices, etc.

Please get them at the Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati, 843-8830, Ms. Jasmine

GENERICS
FACTORY PRICE May 8, 2003

Cash • No Minimum Order • Money Back Guarantee

Allupurinol Tab. 100 mg	Bot. of 100's	72.00
Amoxicillin Cap. 500 mg	Box of 100's	180.00
Ampalaya Cap. 350 mg	Box of 50's	77.00
Carbocisteine Cap. 500 mg	Box of 100's	113.00
Co-trimoxazole Cap. (400/80 mg)	Box of 100's	98.00
Dicycloverine Tablet 10 mg	Box of 100's	25.00
Guaifenesin Tab. 100 mg	Bot. of 100's	28.00
Loperamide Tab. 2 mg	Box of 100's	47.00
Mefenamic Acid Cap. 500 mg	Box of 100's	96.00
Paracetamol Tablet 500	Box of 100's	28.20
Vitamin B_1 + B_6 + B_{12} Tablet	Box of 100's	74.00
Vitamin E Softgels 400 I.U.	Bot. of 300's	780.00

CNN GENERICS
R-210 LC Bldg., 459 Quezon Ave., Q.C.
Tel(s) : 410-1337 • 410-0815
410-1451 • 741-7763
Fax : 410-5216
e-mail : lowprice@cnn-generics.com | visit: www.cnn-generics.com

More than 600 products available

We welcome dealers/distributors!

KITANO®/K8 OFFICE EQUIPMENT www.niboworld.com

CHECKWRITER KI-880
CW-1600 16 currencies w/ink

MIMEOGRAPHING MACHINE
• 120 copies/min
• auto & manual operation
• speed control
• automatic inking

NEW THERMAL BINDING MACHINE

BILL COUNTER
• 3-way Counterspeed
• Auto or Manual Start Mode
• Bill Batch Counter

TATA 24-HOLE PUNCH & BIND MACHINE *Also available 21-hole

LAMINATOR LM-230
• Hot and Cold Lamination
• With temperature control
Size available: 12 1/2" & 18 1/2"

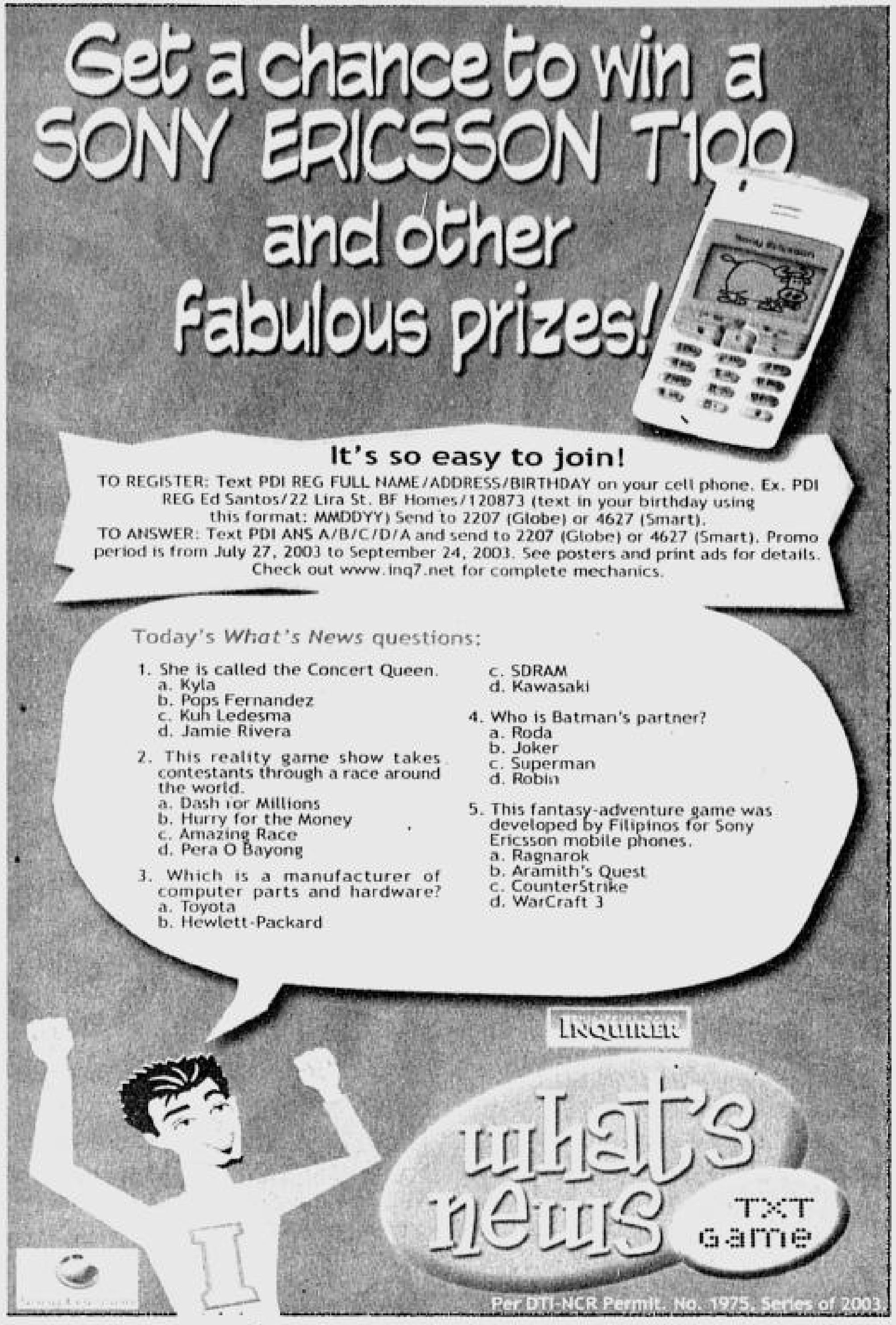
NIBO SHREDDER
* Snow Cut & Straight Cut

TIME RECORDER
KT-6200
• 2 Color Ribbon
• Auto-Shift (In-Out)
• Melody Function
CD-9810 w/ Back-up Battery

TIME STAMP
• Alpha-numeric printing
• Numbering machine
• Time & Date print
TP 10 II

HOLE PUNCHER
TATA Heavy Duty 2, 3 & 4

Makati Tel.: 8905327 / 8905310 / 8967764 Fax: 890-5320
DEALERS ARE WELCOME!



Get a chance to win a SONY ERICSSON T100 and other fabulous prizes!

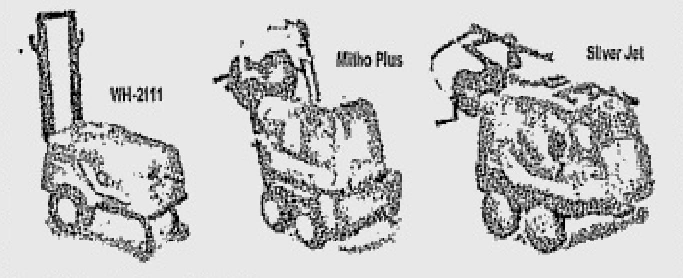
It's so easy to join!
TO REGISTER: Text PDI REG FULL NAME/ADDRESS/BIRTHDAY on your cell phone. Ex. PDI REG Ed Santos/22 Lira St. BF Homes/120873 (text in your birthday using this format: MMDDYY) Send to 2207 (Globe) or 4627 (Smart).
TO ANSWER: Text PDI ANS A/B/C/D/A and send to 2207 (Globe) or 4627 (Smart). Promo period is from July 27, 2003 to September 24, 2003. See posters and print ads for details. Check out www.inq7.net for complete mechanics.

Today's *What's News* questions:

1. She is called the Concert Queen.
   a. Kyla
   b. Pops Fernandez
   c. Kuh Ledesma
   d. Jamie Rivera
2. This reality game show takes contestants through a race around the world.
   a. Dash for Millions
   b. Hurry for the Money
   c. Amazing Race
   d. Pera O Bayong
3. Which is a manufacturer of computer parts and hardware?
   a. Toyota
   b. Hewlett-Packard
   c. SDRAM
   d. Kawasaki
4. Who is Batman's partner?
   a. Roda
   b. Joker
   c. Superman
   d. Robin
5. This fantasy-adventure game was developed by Filipinos for Sony Ericsson mobile phones.
   a. Ragnarok
   b. Aramith's Quest
   c. CounterStrike
   d. WarCraft 3

INQUIRER what's news TXT game

Per DTI-NCR Permit. No. 1975, Series of 2003.



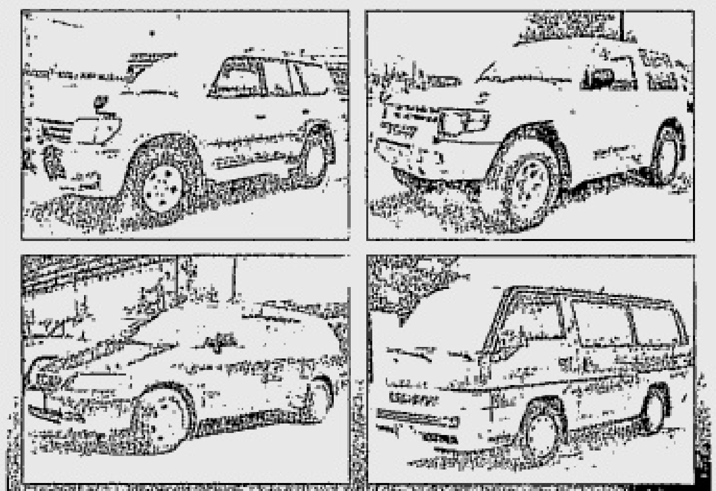
INDUSTRIAL FACTORIES • JANITORIAL SERVICES • POULTRIES • SHIPYARDS • TAXI FLEETS

We Offer The World's Most Trusted High Pressure Washers & Vacuum Cleaners!

FROM THE NO. 1 IN HIGH PRESSURE WASHERS
Major Credit Cards Accepted
Deferred Payments Up To 24 Mos.
WITH AFTER SALES SERVICE

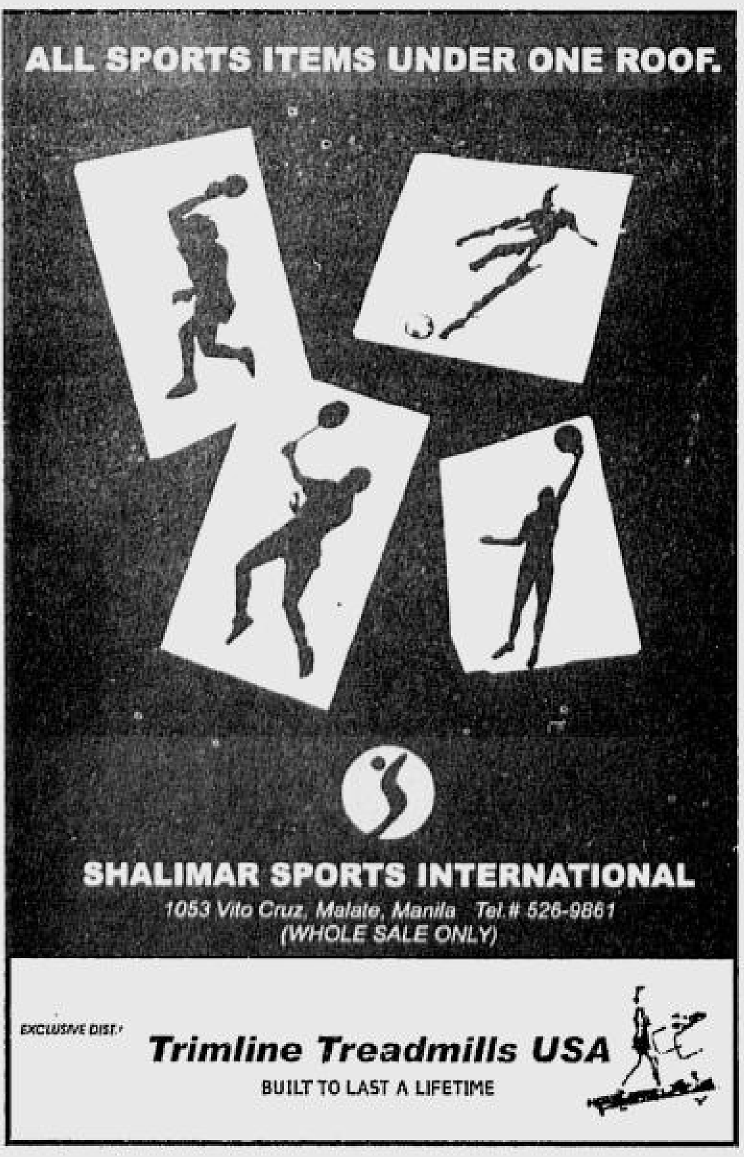
Exclusively Distributed By
CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL INCORPORATED
MAIN OFFICE: 1851 M.Orosa St., Malate, Manila
Tel. Nos.: 5244328 • 5240529 • 5245290
QUEZON CITY BRANCHES: 646 Quezon Ave. Tel. 7490581 • 7493709
162 Del Monte Ave. Nr. Cor. Roosevelt Ave. Tel. 4101086 • 3724429

CAR WASHER • POULTRIES • SHIPYARDS • RESTAURANT • GAS STATIONS • HOTELS



SW MOTORS

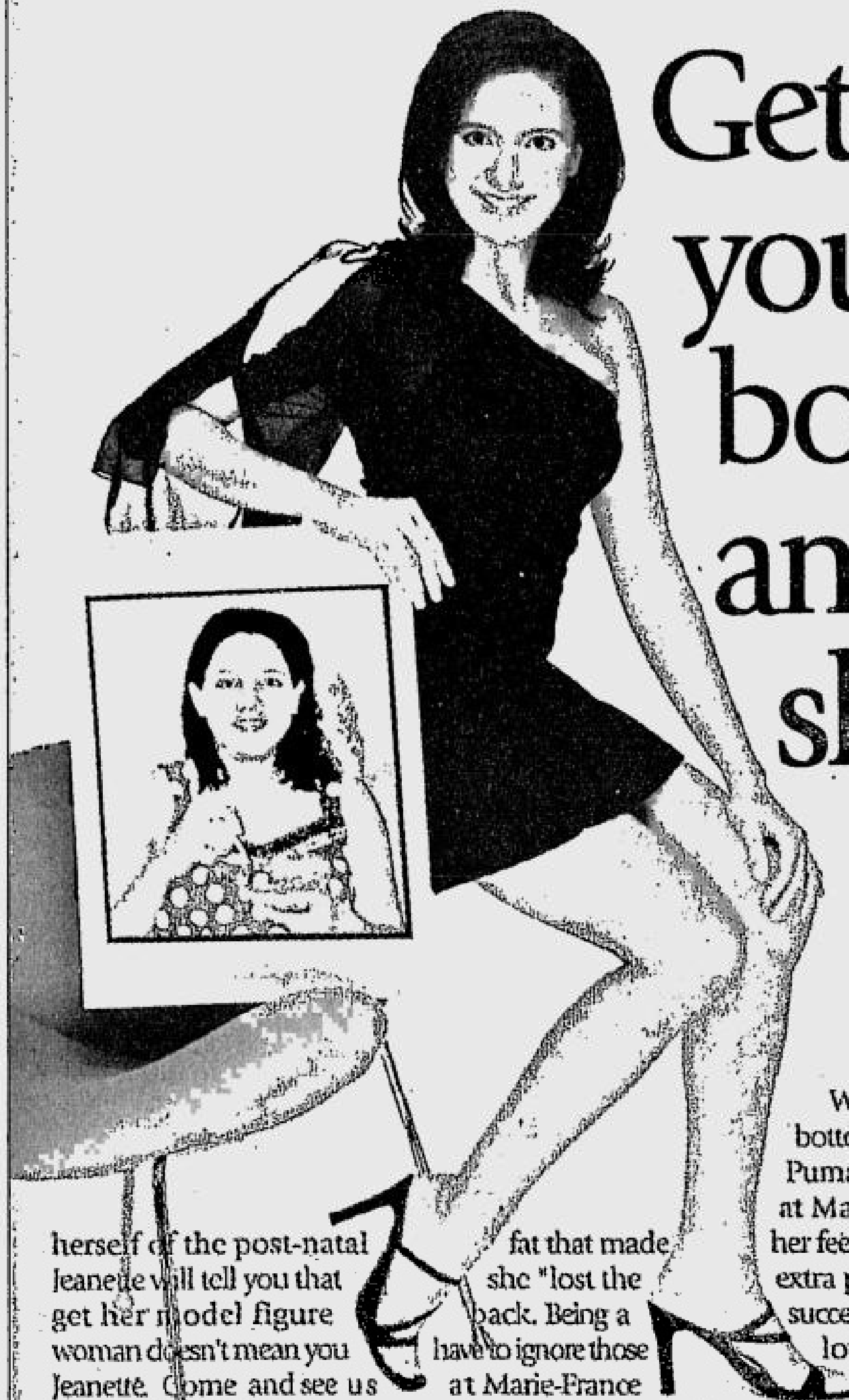
3 DAY MEGA SALE!
0917-8388094



ALL SPORTS ITEMS UNDER ONE ROOF.

SHALIMAR SPORTS INTERNATIONAL
1053 Vito Cruz, Malate, Manila Tel.# 526-9861
(WHOLE SALE ONLY)

EXCLUSIVE DIST.: Trimline Treadmills USA
BUILT TO LAST A LIFETIME



Get off your bottom and into shape!

Why don't you get off your bottom like Jeanette Jimenez-Pumaren? Jeanette lost 23 lbs. at Marie-France and has freed herself of the post-natal fat that made her feel insecure with her shape. Jeanette will tell you that she "lost the extra pounds effortlessly" to get her model figure back. Being a successful mother and business-woman doesn't mean you have to ignore those lovely curves... just ask Jeanette. Come and see us at Marie-France and get a FREE CONSULTATION about how to shape up and get those pounds off *your* bottom. At our centers, we've been caring for curves for 17 years and our satisfied clients will tell you that losing weight has made a difference in all aspects of their family life. So, isn't it time you got off that chair and treated yourself to a glimpse of Marie France's slimming satisfaction?

Uncover Your Curves
Marie France
Bodyline International®

MAKATI	ORTIGAS	TIMOG	BINONDO	ALABANG	SHAW	CONGRESSIONAL	PAMPANGA	CEBU
816-1262	687-1216	372-6635	242-2199	809-9619	534-5898	920-8021	961-2981/91	233-7637
815-2052	687-1218	372-6636	243-8230	850-4574	534-5877	920-8047	860-6921/22	233-7639

NOW OPEN Mon-Fri 8:00 am - 7:00 pm • Saturday 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

PAGCOR is no. 1 in profit in 2002

Team work and good management are the keys to its record-breaking success

THE PHILIPPINE Amusement and Gaming Corp. (PAGCOR) affirms its extraordinary resilience in the face of the harshest economic conditions when it ranked No. 1 in terms of profit for 2002, based on the report of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), With a phenomenal P11.03 billion net income after taxes. the highest ever in its 20-year history. PAGCOR firmly established its position among the biggest top performing corporations in the country today.

Undaunted by the crises that have challenged the global economy and have dampened the country's progress, PAGCOR remains rock steady in its mission of generating much needed funds for the government under the visionary leadership of Chairman and CEO Efraim C. Genuino.

Breaking income records is not entirely new to the corporation. In 2001 alone, during Genuino's first year as chief executive, PAGCOR posted a remarkable total income of P17.46 billion or 19.4 percent higher than the P14.61 revenue of 2000.

This feat was made even more impressive given the fact that the year 2001 was marked by catastrophic events such as the September 11 attack on the United States, which had severe repercussions on businesses worldwide.

"The company was able to breeze through a turbulent year, eclipsing along the way its 10-year record of 13.6 percent total income growth from 1991 to 2000," Genuino said.

"Since 2001, the company averages an increase of P500 million a month. With this kind of growth rate, expect bigger things to come," he added.

This unprecedented success was promptly overshadowed when the state-run gaming firm reported an annual income of P20.21 billion for 2002 an achievement which surpassed all of PAGCOR's previous income records by a notable 38 percent margin in as little as two years.

In the first quarter of 2003, PAGCOR yet again surpassed expectations by posting a hefty P5.05 billion income. In the second quarter, the corporation validated its status as one of the most stable companies in the country, if not worldwide, by struggling against the effects of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) scare. While most countries with casino gaming suffered staggering losses of up to 40 percent, PAGCOR kept its shortfall to a minimum or less than 10 percent by instituting stringent cost-cutting measures in both its gaming and non-gaming operations.

Now, that the SARS alert has been lifted. PAGCOR is poised towards achieving its revenue targets.

Unity and reforms

Genuino attributes much of PAGCOR's achievements to the concerted efforts of its 11,000-strong workforce.

"The employees are the real heroes behind the company's success and I congratulate every one of them for a job well done. Without their support, anything that we hope to accomplish will come to nothing. That is why I consider them as PAGCOR's biggest assets," he said.

The employees, meanwhile, as well as leaders in both government and private sectors credit the corporation's phenomenal performance to Genuino's efficient, results-oriented management.

Upon assumption of duty, the PAGCOR chief instituted pivotal reforms such as the institution of a scientific style of management, wise cost-cutting measures, the streamlining of operations and the expansion of existing facilities.

"Hand in hand with corporate restructuring, we stepped up the modernization of PAGCOR's gaming and auxiliary facilities. We also launched an aggressive marketing thrust which focused on expanding the image of Casino Filipino from a gaming venue into a vehicle for wholesome entertainment for all," Genuino revealed.

BARELY three years into his term, PAGCOR Chairman & CEO Efraim C. Genuino has propelled the company to new income heights.

And the numbers are there to prove that, indeed, the corporation has taken steps in the right direction.

Biggest charitable institution

Apart from its mission to boost the national economy, PAGCOR is driven by a deeper responsibility to serve the public, especially the poorest of the poor.

"We are challenged by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's all-encompassing mission to alleviate the lives of the less fortunate. This motivates us to work harder so that we may reach out and be of service to a greater number of Filipinos," Genuino said.

As mandated by law, P12.19 billion or 60.32 percent of PAGCOR's total income of P20.2 billion in 2002 was remitted to the National Government and other legal beneficiaries. The National Treasury received a hefty P9.83 billion representing the government's 50 percent share of PAGCOR's gross revenue, qualifying fee collections as well as taxes and duties paid to the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Bureau of Customs. The Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) was allotted P428.79 million to sustain the country's sports development program. The Board of Claims received P11.25 million to compensate people unjustly accused and wrongly prosecuted. Another P425.30 million was remitted to cities hosting PAGCOR casinos.

Additional amounts were allocated in support of vital government programs such as the Sports Benefits & Incentives Act, the Department of Energy's Gasoline Station Training and Loan Fund, the National Endowment Fund for Children's Television, and the Early Childhood Care and Development Program.

PAGCOR under Chairman Genuino has distinguished itself for the numerous high-impact projects it has undertaken for the good of the community.

Its remittances to the President's Social Fund, for instance, have been substantially used to build classrooms, hospitals,low-cost homes, and potable water systems.

At present, PAGCOR is at the forefront of implementing President Arroyo's health program dubbed "Handog Kalusugan ni PGMA." This consists of free medical-dental missions targeting depressed and remote communities around the country. On the other hand, PAGCOR has its own emergency medical service patterned after the 911 system in the United States. Hotline 966 is equipped to respond to the needs of people, especially during crucial life-and-death situations

The corporation has also funded beautification campaign, streetlighting projects and livelihood programs as well as supported humanitarian organizations that provide care for streetchildren, abused women, the elderly and other marginalized sectors.

* * *

ADVT.

Danding still in the running

From page A1

conut Planters Bank with coconut levy funds, told a group of foreign businessmen yesterday that he would announce "not later than the end of September whether I would seek the presidency."

Ms Macapagal is widely expected to announce within three months her intention to seek a full six-year term in the May 10 national elections.

Taking advantage of the businessmen's concern over the impact of the political bickering on the economic climate, Cojuangco, chair and chief executive of San Miguel Corp., offered unsolicited advice to solve the country's economic and political woes.

"I will try to call for a constituent assembly to change the Constitution because things need fixing. If we can't change the system of government, I can't see how we can effect reforms fast," he said when asked about the first thing he would do if elected as president.

Amid economic problems such as the sharp fall of the peso and the decline in export revenue, the 70-year-old businessman bragged about the achievements of San Miguel Corp., saying it serves as a "beacon of hope" and a "symbol of entrepreneurial spirit."

Cojuangco said San Miguel had resolved to seek new market opportunities abroad and was expected to be in the top 10 largest food and beverage companies in the Asia-Pacific region in 2007.

"Possibly for these reasons, I have been asked by many to look beyond San Miguel to a larger perspective ... for their faith in my capability to lead our country to a better tomorrow, I would like to thank all those who have urged me to seek the presidency," he told the European, Canadian and Japanese chambers of commerce, and representatives from the local business community.

Cojuangco said much of the under-performing economy was in a "crisis of survival" and a fresh approach was needed to end the "cynicism and apparent loss of spirit among many" of the 80 million Filipinos.

He said the country needed urgent government reforms such as realignment of the bureaucracy, more incentives to encourage the entry of more foreign investments, and reduction in judicial interference in the economy.

"It should not have happened. The Supreme Court should only talk about matters of the law and should not decide on matters concerning the economy," he said, referring to the Piatco case.

COJUANGCO: Decision to run in September. ERIK ARAZAS

Echoing Ms Macapagal's free market ideals, Cojuangco praised market liberalization moves that opened up the economy since the late 1980s after the fall of the Marcos dictatorship.

Government "should encourage and promote business and investment by doing away with the roadblocks that have, for generations, stood in the way of Filipino venture and productivity," he said.

Businessmen reacted positively to the idea of Cojuangco's seeking the presidency.

"He understands the environment ... and he can possibly create a business climate that can sustain investments and jobs," said Stewart Hall, president of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Miguel Varela, chair of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said Cojuangco's strong business background would help him deal with the economy.

"He is a good manager as shown by his track record in San Miguel. I believe he has the ability to provide stability and lead the country, especially in the economic aspect," Varela said.

Cojuangco was an unsuccessful candidate in the 1992 presidential election.

Another presidential aspirant, however, wants Ms Macapagal to reiterate that she would no longer run in the 2004 elections.

Raul Roco, a former senator and education secretary, said Ms Macapagal's affirmation of her declaration on Dec. 30, 2002 would defuse the current political restiveness.

Asked if such affirmation would "calm down political nerves," he said "it should."

Roco said the President herself admitted on Dec. 30 that her expected candidacy in 2004 was dividing the nation.

"She herself said she attracts disunity. Those were her words so she should not get mad," he said. *Reports from AFP, Michelle V. Remo and Dona Pazzibugan*

Chavit says Ping exposé 'chismis'

From page A1

royo.

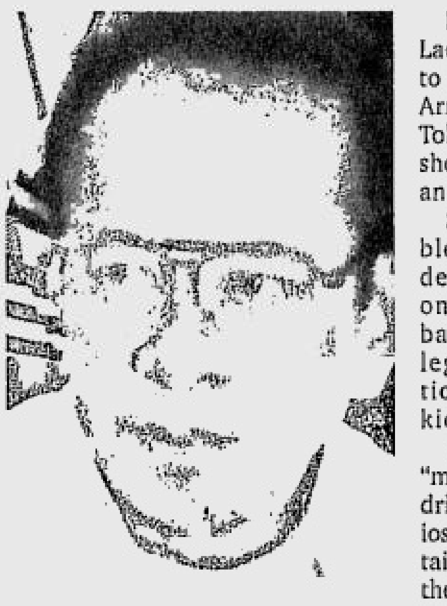
"Before he made his exposé, he should have prepared all documents to support his allegations," Singson said in an interview with the INQUIRER.

The "sloppiness" of Lacson's work, he said, became evident when the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office presented evidence which belied Lacson's claim that it had deposited P1.35 million in lotto "jackpot" to the Jose Pidal account, which is allegedly owned by Arroyo.

It turned out that the PCSO had deposited only P23,000 to the account of a lotto winner, Singson said, showing that Lacson's claim was "fabricated."

"I suppose the rest of his exposé was also fabricated," Singson said.

And to cover up for the supposedly inadequate evidence, Singson said Lacson infused rumors into his stories against the First Gentleman. He said Lacson had no business harping on Arroyo's alleged extra-marital affair and should have concentrated on the Jose Pidal accounts.



SINGSON

"Rumors may attract public attention but they can never hold water," he said. "Exposés are always about the truth."

In his two privileged speeches, Lacson had made some references to a special relationship between Arroyo and his accountant, Victoria Toh. The senator, however, stopped short of saying the two were having an affair.

Singson said that when he blew the whistle on then President Joseph Estrada, he focused only on the latter's Jose Velarde bank account, where Estrada allegedly put his "jueteng" collections and tobacco excise tax kickbacks.

He said that while he also had "many" stories about his erstwhile drinking buddy's women and idiosyncrasies, he said he tried to contain any reference to these during the impeachment trial at the Senate in 2000.

Thousands of Filipinos massed up at the Edsa Shrine when majority of the senators blocked the opening of the second envelope containing information about the Jose Velarde account. Estrada was eventually forced to step down in January 2001.

US doctors opting for lifestyle over pay

From page A1

time to spend with family, rather than such traditional factors as pay and prestige, according to a study published on Tuesday in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

"We're being told essentially that it's not the number of hours or the intensity of the work, it's the ability at the end of the day to close out the work day and go home and be away from professional responsibilities," Gregory Rutecki, one of the study's authors, said.

"The trend may also represent the increasing number of women in the profession," who seek a closer balance between family and professional duties, Rutecki said.

The finding points to potential shortages of doctors in specialties such as family practice, surgery, and obstetrics as medical students shun fields where they are required to be on-call during many off hours, the report said.

"We're going to have person-power shortages in the next 10 years in critical areas. Where are the primary care doctors going to come from?" said Rutecki, a physician and professor at Northwestern University.

The report said previous studies had also detected the trend, with students more inclined to select specialties with fewer work hours per week and fewer nights on-call.

Researchers collected six years of data from industry matching programs that direct graduating medical students to hospital residencies in their chosen specialties, with professions offering more defined hours gaining favor.

From 1996 to 2002, the percentage of students surveyed who chose anesthesiology grew to 6.4 percent from 1.1 percent. Dermatology was picked by 2.3 percent up from 0.2 percent, and radiology was chosen by 6.1 percent in 2002 versus 3.3 percent in 1996.

On the other hand, 9.5 percent chose family practice in 2002 compared to 16.1 percent in 1996, and 7.6 percent chose general surgery versus 10.4 percent six years earlier.

Through the length of the study, 55 percent of students' choices related to lifestyle factors, compared to 9 percent basing their decisions on potential income.

The increasing number of women doctors and general practitioners' loss of decision-making to insurance companies will likely exacerbate the trend, Rutecki said. *Reuters*

GMA: Federal system might help

By Philip C. Tubeza

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN (via PLDT)—President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday said a federal system might help resolve the conflicts in Mindanao but her spokesperson said her remarks at the general meeting of the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC) here should not be construed as green-lighting Charter change.

"I believe that some kind of federal system for the Philippines could help solve the problem of Islamic separatism in the South," the President said in her keynote address.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye explained that Ms Macapagal had already "agreed in principle" to a federal form of government after a suitable transition period.

But while it was up to Congress to thresh out the details of a federal system, this does not necessarily mean a constitutional amendment, he said.

In her speech, Ms Macapagal said the government was already trying to develop Mindanao economically while pursuing a "tough as nails" policy against insurgents and separatists.

"Our efforts to address the challenges in southern Philippines are not confined to the battlefield. They are directed at pushing for peace and promoting the economic development that will make peace sustainable. I am working vigorously both in public diplomacy and behind the scenes for proper peace with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front," Ms Macapagal said.

Peace conditions

She said the main thrust of her Mindanao policy was to create the conditions for peace, "to show the people that they have an economic future, that their government will stand not for violence of any kind, that it is time for all sides to reach an equitable solution so that lives can be rebuilt."

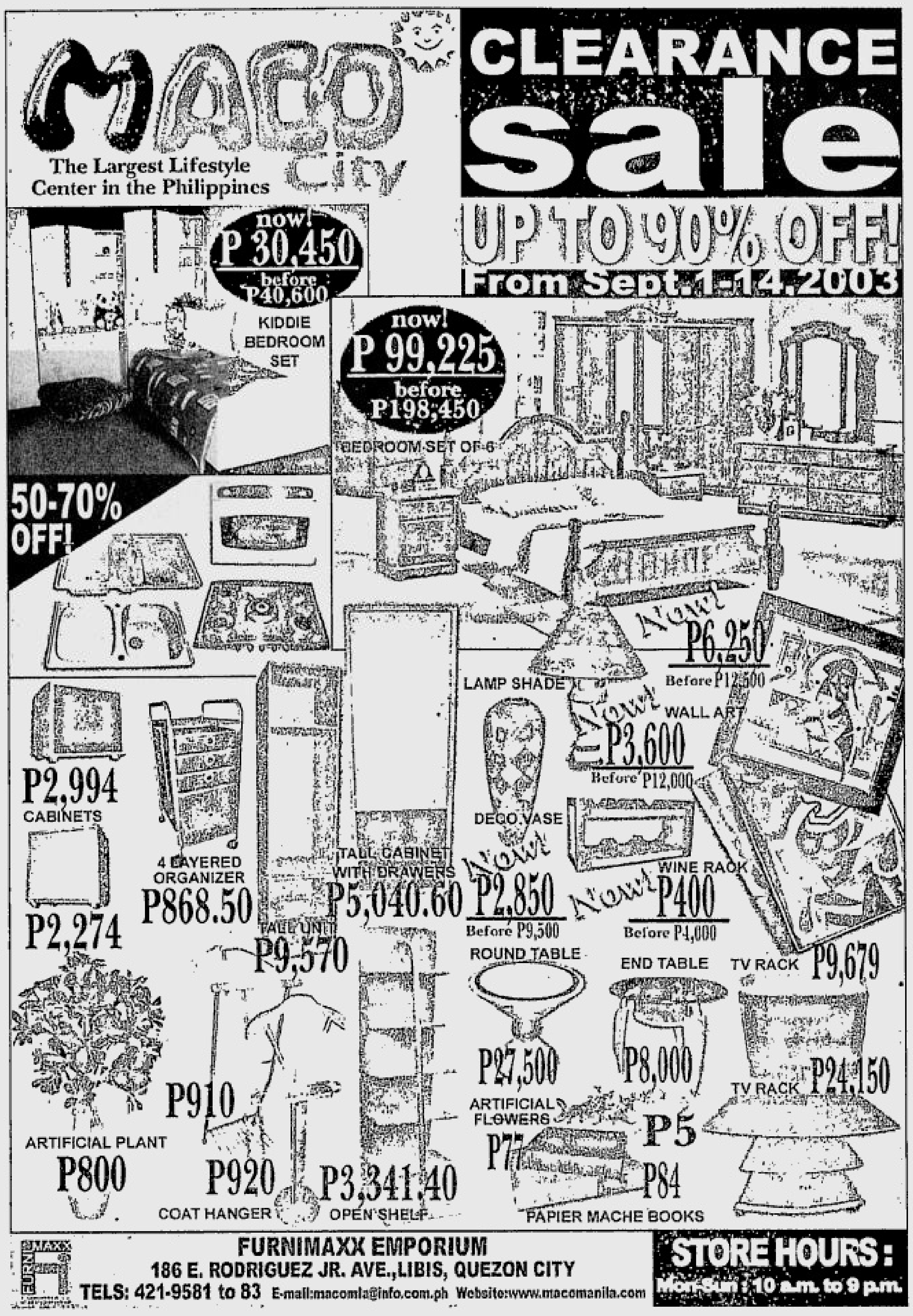
She said that agriculture and fishing were important industries in Mindanao and the government's efforts to find markets for exports from the South were "yielding results."

The President said she was also pushing for the revitalization of the BIMP-EAGA, or the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East Asian Growth Area, initiated during the Ramos administration.

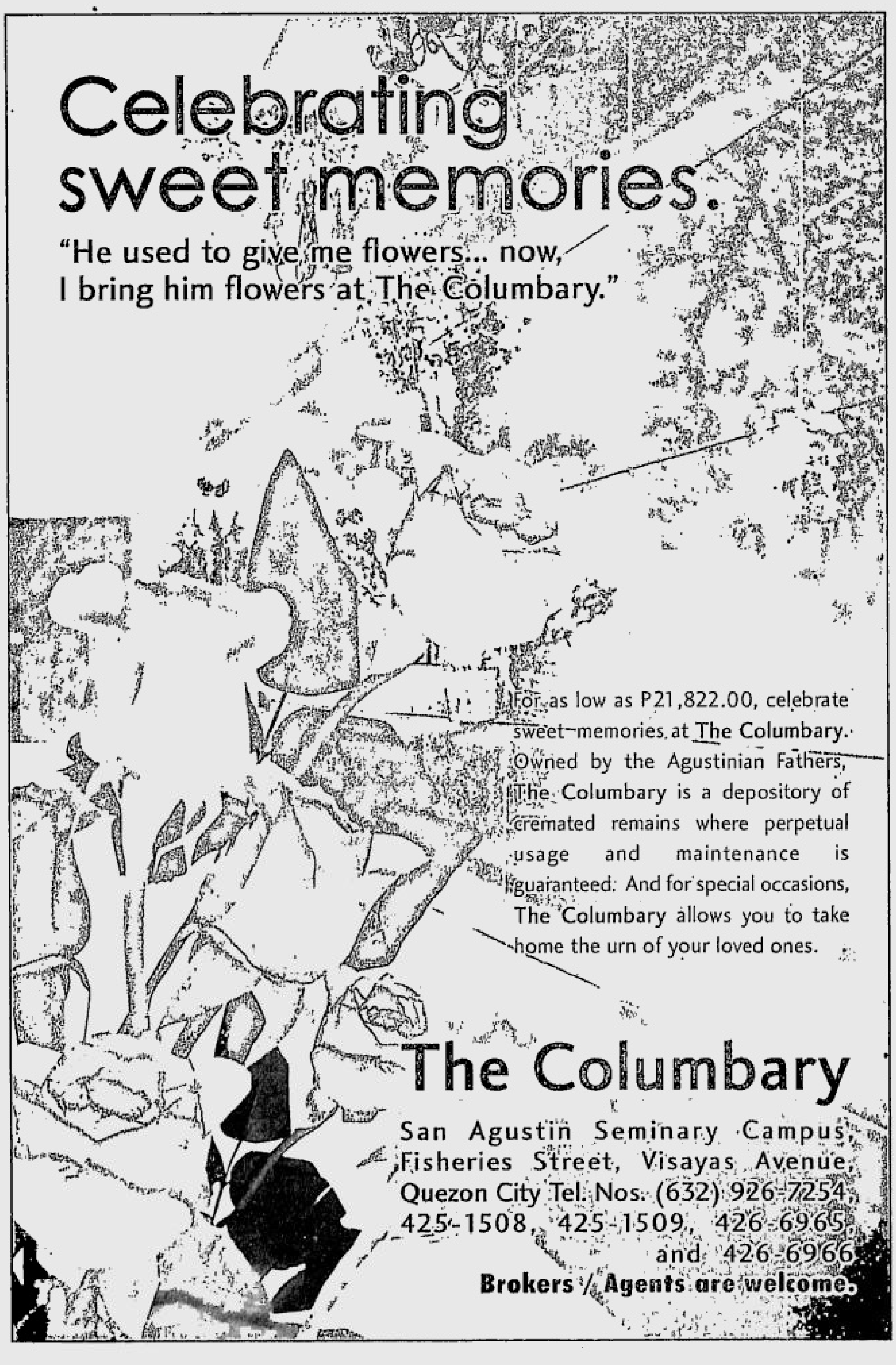
Bunye said the BIMP-EAGA, which seeks to bring about the development of contiguous areas of the four neighboring Southeast Asian countries, was also discussed when the President later met with Brunei's Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah.

The two leaders also discussed the possibility of Brunei investing in the Philippines' Islamic Bank.

He added that the President and the Sultan also talked about the possibility of Royal Brunei Airlines operating direct flights to Davao, which is only 45 minutes away from the tiny oil-rich kingdom.


MACO City
The Largest Lifestyle Center in the Philippines
CLEARANCE sale
UP TO 90% OFF!
From Sept. 1-14, 2003
now! P 30,450 before P40,600
KIDDIE BEDROOM SET
now! P 99,225 before P198,450
BEDROOM SET OF 6
50-70% OFF!
Now! P6,250 Before P12,500
LAMP SHADE
Now! P3,600 Before P12,000
WALL ART
P2,994
CABINETS
P2,274
4 LAYERED ORGANIZER
P868.50
TALL CABINET WITH DRAWERS
P5,040.60
TALL UNIT
P9,570
DECO VASE
Now! P2,850 Before P9,500
WINE RACK
Now! P400 Before P4,000
ROUND TABLE
P27,500
END TABLE
P8,000
TV RACK
P9,679
TV RACK
P24,150
ARTIFICIAL PLANT
P800
P910
COAT HANGER
P920
OPEN SHELF
P3,341.40
ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS
P77
P5
P84
PAPIER MACHE BOOKS
STORE HOURS: Mon-Sun : 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

FURNIMAXX EMPORIUM
186 E. RODRIGUEZ JR. AVE., LIBIS, QUEZON CITY
TELS: 421-9581 to 83 E-mail:macomla@info.com.ph Website:www.macomanila.com


Celebrating sweet memories.

"He used to give me flowers... now, I bring him flowers at The Columbary."

For as low as P21,822.00, celebrate sweet memories at The Columbary. Owned by the Agustinian Fathers, The Columbary is a depository of cremated remains where perpetual usage and maintenance is guaranteed. And for special occasions, The Columbary allows you to take home the urn of your loved ones.

The Columbary
San Agustin Seminary Campus,
Fisheries Street, Visayas Avenue,
Quezon City Tel. Nos. (632) 926-7254,
425-1508, 425-1509, 426-6965
and 426-6966
Brokers / Agents are welcome.

EXPRESS ADVICE

STOP

Keep your PIN private.

Memorize your ATM Personal Identification Number (PIN). Don't divulge it to anyone. Avoid using numbers that can be easily deciphered like your or your family members' birthdays, phone numbers, etc. Be sure to change your PIN when you sense it has been compromised.

Ask assistance only from BPI bank personnel.

For ATM-related concerns, avoid asking or getting assistance from strangers who may approach to help you. Ask assistance only from BPI bank personnel.

KEEP DISTANCE

Observe ATM courtesy.

When standing in line at the ATM, give the person ahead of you some privacy by keeping your distance from him or her. When it's your turn, make sure you conduct your transactions in privacy as well.

In case of emergencies, call 89-100.

Keep your ATM card safe. Avoid putting it in places that are easily accessible to other people. In case you lose or misplace your card, or if your card gets captured by the ATM, call 89-100 right away. Our phonebankers are ready to assist you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

For more information, log on to www.bpiexpressonline.com

Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Deposits insured up to ₱100,000.

BPI EXPRESS TELLER
The fully-loaded Express Banking card.

BPI
express teller
international

NO WONDER?
This should be no reason to blame Economic Planning Secretary Romulo Neri for the country's economic woes. Neri, one of the administration's top economic managers, was just being a sport when an entertainer asked him to join the fun during yesterday's 103rd anniversary celebration of the Philippine Civil Service at the Villamor Air Base. EDWIN BACASMAS

No check went to Jose Pidal, PCSO chief says

THE PHILIPPINE Charity Sweepstakes Office yesterday strongly denied opposition Sen. Panfilo Lacson's claim that a PCSO check worth P1.3 million went into the controversial "Jose Pidal" bank account.

"If ever there was any such Landbank check claimed to be a PCSO check, I would say that's a spurious check," PCSO chair Ma. Livia "Honeygirl" Singson-de Leon said at a weekly news forum.

In a privileged speech, Lacson claimed that a Landbank check bearing serial number 061283 in the amount of P1.35 million was deposited to the "Jose Pidal" account on Feb. 8, 2003. Lacson had claimed that the Pidal account belonged to First Gentleman Mike Arroyo.

De Leon yesterday demanded a public apology from Lacson for implicating the PCSO in the "Jose Pidal" controversy.

She said Lacson should retract his statement and issue a public apology to the PCSO "for the lies he has been spreading" against the agency.

"If he were really a man of honor out to expose corruption in government, he should have immediately publicly rectified the error in his statement during his privileged speech," De Leon told reporters.

De Leon yesterday showed reporters the original Landbank check No. 061283 for P23,000 issued by the PCSO on Feb. 26, 2001 to Fortunato G. Tiratira, representing his winnings for getting five correct numbers in the "6/45" lotto draw.

DE LEON

De Leon also showed another check with the same serial number but with the Philippine National Bank as drawee bank. The PNB check in the amount of P40,000 was issued by the PCSO on Nov. 8, 2002 to Leonora Vidanes for medical assistance.

Lacson may have been given fabricated information and spurious documents, De Leon said, adding that she was willing to face a Senate inquiry to disprove Lacson's claim.

The PCSO treasury and budget departments had issued a certification saying their records from Feb. 1, 2001 to Feb. 28, 2003 showed that there is "no Landbank check No. 061283 issued in the name of Mr. Jose Pidal or any other name in the amount of P1.35 million."

De Leon said the certification proves that Senator Lacson's information is fabricated.

Bank checks bear distinct numbers, thus, there could not be another Landbank check with serial No. 061283 except the one they have, according to De Leon. Checks issued by the PCSO are returned to the PCSO once they are cleared by the bank.

The PCSO is a government agency mandated to extend financial and social assistance to the poor and needy in the country. But it must secure the President's approval in the use of its charity funds.

De Leon dismissed Lacson's allegations as a "merely political gimmick."

"Everyone knows that he is running for President in 2004. And logic tells us that it is an expected behavior for a political animal like him to do everything in his power to demolish his political enemies ... that includes President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo," she said.

By linking the PCSO to the alleged money laundering scandal, De Leon said Lacson deliberately and willfully besmirched the reputation of the PCSO.

"What makes our service to the poor and the needy really possible is the trust and confidence that the public gives to us. This to us is a defining requirement for us to raise funds," she said.

The PCSO chair admitted that their operations could possibly be affected because of Lacson's statements. "The integrity of the agency is what is at stake here," she told reporters. *Dona Pazzibugan and Tina Santos*

Indon verdict prompts tighter security in RP

THE GOVERNMENT has heightened security in the country because of possible retaliatory attacks by Muslim extremist groups following the sentencing of radical cleric Abu Bakar Bashir in Indonesia, National Security Adviser Roilo Golez said yesterday.

While there was no specific threat, such an attack could be carried out anywhere in Southeast Asia, Golez said.

"We are concerned ... about the sentencing of Abu Bakar Bashir. As a matter of precaution, we are raising the alert level because of the ... possibility of some retaliatory or sympathetic attacks in the region," he told a press briefing.

Bashir was sentenced Tuesday to four years for sedition but was acquitted of the main charge of leading Jemaah Islamiyah, the al-Qaida-linked regional terror network, and authorizing a series of church attacks and an assassination plot against Indonesia's president in 2000.

Judges said there was insufficient evidence that the 65-year-old Bashir is the top power behind—or even a member of—Jemaah Islamiyah, which has been blamed for the October 2002 Bali nightclub bombings and the Aug. 5 bombing of Jakarta's J.W. Marriott Hotel.

However, they said Bashir knew but did nothing to stop Jemaah Islamiyah plans to overthrow the Indonesian government.

In Sydney, former President Fidel Ramos criticized the light sentence for Bashir, saying it sent the wrong message to terrorists.

In a speech to the Asia Society in Sydney, Ramos said Asian nations should agree to common judicial standards on terrorism.

He said the region needed to develop a common judicial code to ensure terrorists were dealt with consistently.

"Lawyers here in Australia, also in the Philippines and in Indonesia will (then) have a common reaction to these things, which we all abhor," he said.

Ramos also called for the creation of an international special forces group to tackle terrorism.

Australian Prime Minister John Howard said he was pleased Bashir had been convicted of some offenses, but also disappointed he was cleared of leading Jemaah Islamiyah because "many of us here in Australia believe that he was at least the spiritual leader of Jemaah Islamiyah."

Indonesia and the Philippines, which have suffered from deadly bombings blamed on Jemaah Islamiyah, are cooperating closely to prevent future attacks and capture one of the group's suspected bomb experts, Fathur Rohman al-Ghozi, who escaped from the Camp Crame police headquarters in July, Golez said. *AP*

Ka Roger a communist heretic?

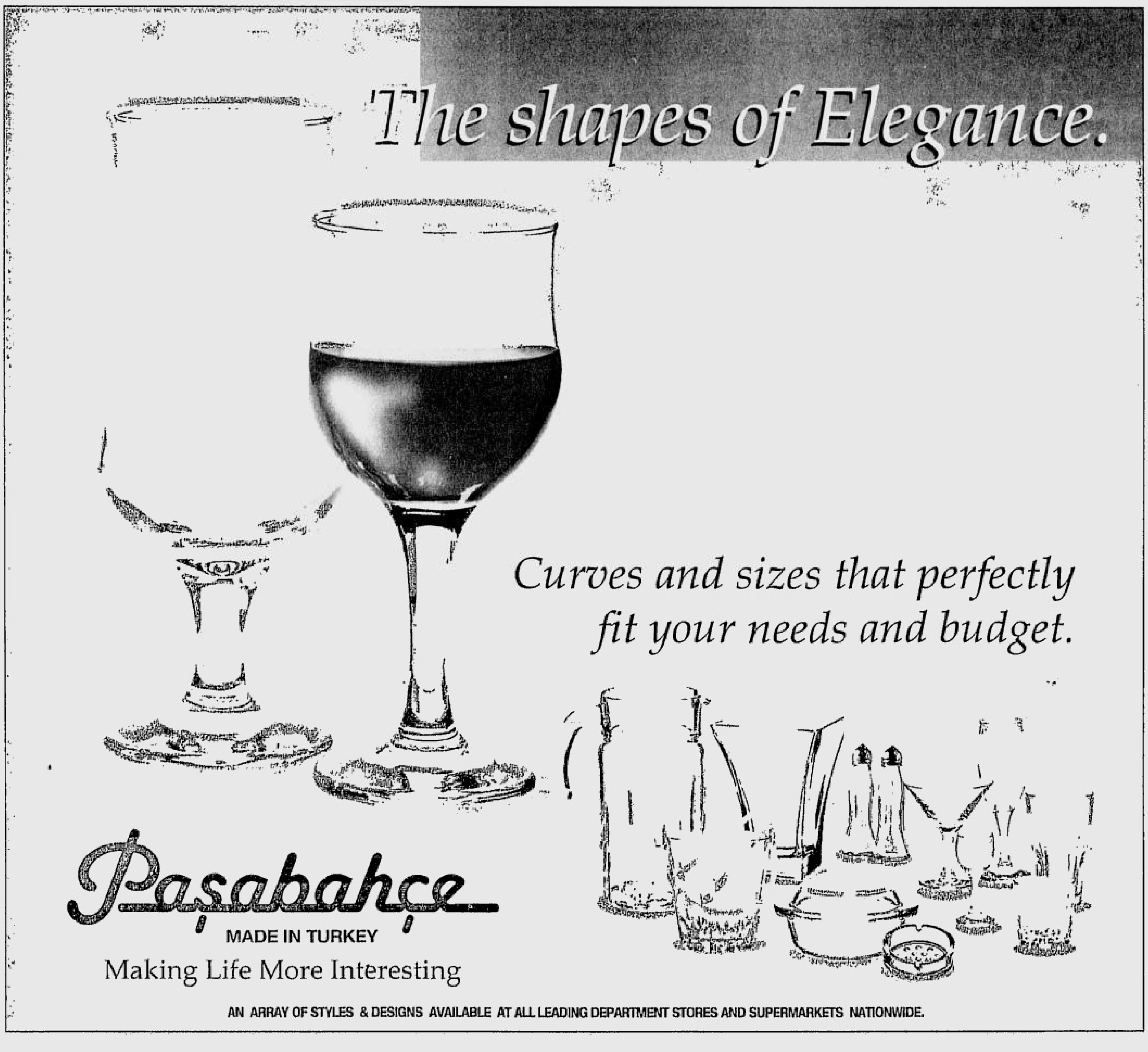
LUCENA CITY—A breakaway communist faction accused Communist Party spokesperson Gregorio "Ka Roger" Rosal of ideological heresy for "advocating a mere regime change rather than system change."

Patricio Ramirez, spokesperson of the Partido ng Manggagawang Pilipino, said Rosal should consider a change of career and become instead the spokesperson of the Philippine Constitution Association, a group espousing the upholding of the Constitution.

"His formula of ousting GMA and installing Guingona as successor smacks of constitutionalism that is unheard of for a supposed communist like him," Ramirez said in an e-mail statement.

On Tuesday, Rosal called on massive demonstrations to remove President Macapagal-Arroyo from office and install Vice President Teofisto Guingona as her successor.

Ramirez said that if the present political crisis matures into the ouster of Ms Macapagal and another uprising erupts, the people must fight for a transitional regime that will institute radical reforms and will not be bound by the "bourgeois Constitution" or the 2004 elections. *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*



The shapes of Elegance.
Curves and sizes that perfectly fit your needs and budget.
Paşabahçe
MADE IN TURKEY
Making Life More Interesting
AN ARRAY OF STYLES & DESIGNS AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING DEPARTMENT STORES AND SUPERMARKETS NATIONWIDE.

89 drug test centers flunk test

By B. S. Rivera

ONLY about 70 percent of drug-testing centers in the country remained in operation this month as the government tightened the noose on unqualified testing centers as part of its all-out campaign against drugs.

Records from the Department of Health showed that of the 1,019 drug testing centers earlier approved by the Dangerous Drugs Board, only 725 passed the requirements set by the DOH.

In Metro Manila alone, 89 centers failed to make the cut, reducing to 248 the number of licensed centers from the 337 earlier accredited by the DDB in the region.

The DOH, which took over the licensing function from the DDB in July, gave drug-testing centers nationwide up to Aug. 31 to comply with the new standards which focused on improvement in personnel and operation qualifications.

It has revoked the licenses of those that were unable to correct their deficiencies as of Aug. 31.

Nick Lutero, chief of the DOH hospital regulation and licensing division, said that most of those centers did not meet the required personnel credentials, including being headed by a licensed physician.

ASIAN LAWMAKERS' CALL

Self-determination for Iraq urged

By Carlito Pablo

ASIAN parliamentarians yesterday called on the United Nations to restore the right of United States-occupied Iraq to "self-determination" and "territorial integrity."

The Association of Asian Parliamentarians for Peace also called for the "immediate withdrawal" of Israeli military forces from all Arab lands that were "occupied" after the 1967 war.

"We call on the Security Council of the United Nations to uphold in Iraq the principle of independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of nations so that its people may regain their right to self-determination," the AAPP said in the Manila Declaration it issued at the end of its 4th general assembly hosted by the Philippines from Aug. 31 to Sept. 4.

Speaker Jose de Venecia, who has assumed the AAPP presidency, explained in a press conference that while the forum did not directly tackle the withdrawal of US-led forces from Iraq, parliaments in the region are "hoping that the UN will play a larger role" there.

De Venecia said that what the assembly wanted was for the "mission of coalition forces [to] be expedited so the Iraqi people will emerge to really take over."

Khalili ur-Rehman, deputy chair of the Pakistani Senate, said that although the US was not directly referred to in the Manila Declaration, there was an "indirect message" for a US pullout from Iraq.

The Manila Declaration also expressed "grave concern at the continuing deterioration of the situation in the Middle East" and affirmed support for UN resolutions related to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"We call for the immediate withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied Arab lands prior to June 5, 1967 and the cessation of all acts of violence so as to create conditions for the resumption of peace talks," the AAPP said.

The AAPP called on the international community to strive harder to achieve a fair and just settlement of the conflict and "look forward to a Middle East that is free from all weapons of mass destruction."

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Thursday, September 4, 2003
22nd Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Col 1:9-14
Gospel: Lk 5:1-11

One day, as Jesus stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, with a crowd gathered around him listening to the word of God, he caught sight of two boats left at the water's edge by the fishermen now washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to pull out a little from the shore. There he sat and continued to teach the crowd.

When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch." Simon replied, "Master, we worked hard all night and caught nothing. But if you say so, I will lower the nets." This they did and caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. They signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. They came and filled both boats almost to the point of sinking.

Upon seeing this, Simon Peter fell at Jesus' knees, saying, "Leave me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and his companions were amazed at the catch they had made and so were Simon's partners, James and John, Zebedee's sons.

Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. You will catch people from now on." So they brought their boats to land and followed him, leaving everything.

Commentary

"Master, we worked hard all night ... But if you say so I will lower the nets." Peter was a master fisherman. He knew the lake since he was a kid. He grew up and became a man near the lake. He knew that the best time to fish was at night when the fish will surface from the deep. It was already daylight and time to go home and rest. But here was Jesus, a carpenter from Nazareth, telling him to lower down the nets. And yet Peter believed in Jesus and the miracle happened. On many occasions, Jesus refused to perform a miracle when faith was lacking. He even went further by saying that the miracle happened precisely because they believed. We can conclude that faith has the power to effect a miracle. Believing is miracle making. Are you expecting miracles in your life? Do you have faith?

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@cn1.net; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

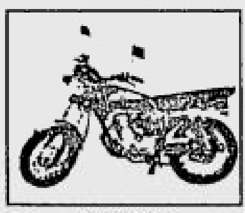
SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

CRIMINAL LAW—Anti-carnapping—Carnapping, as defined under Section 2, paragraph 2 of this special law, is the taking, with intent to gain, of a motor vehicle belonging to another without the latter's consent, or by means of violence against or intimidation of persons, or by use of force upon things. The elements of carnapping are thus: (a) the taking of a motor vehicle which belongs to another; (b) the taking is without the consent of the owner or by means of violence against or intimidation of persons or by using force upon things; (c) the taking is done with intent to gain. [Citations omitted.] [En Banc, Justice Carpio-Morales, People v. Napalit, G.R. Nos. 142919 and 143876, February 4, 2003]

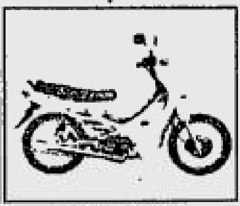
BY R. B. VERA

MOTORSIKLONG PANG DRIVER, PANGKOLEKTA, PANG RONDA, PANG MESSENGER, PANG GWARDYA, PANG PORMA !

SA BUDGET KAYANG KAYA!!!
AS LOW AS 4,200.00 Pesos DP and 2,316.00 Pesos monthly Lease.


CG 150cc

STAG 110cc


WAVE 100cc

Enduro 150CC

Charis MotorBykes Trade Int'l Co.
Head Office: # 29 Unit C. Crismor Bldg., G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City
714-6994 • 714-9089 • 714-9088 • 288-0921 • 287-6152 • 714-6970

BOX, SIDECAR, LUGGAGE
Box Available

IRRESISTIBLY lower PRICED!
ALL ORIGINAL !

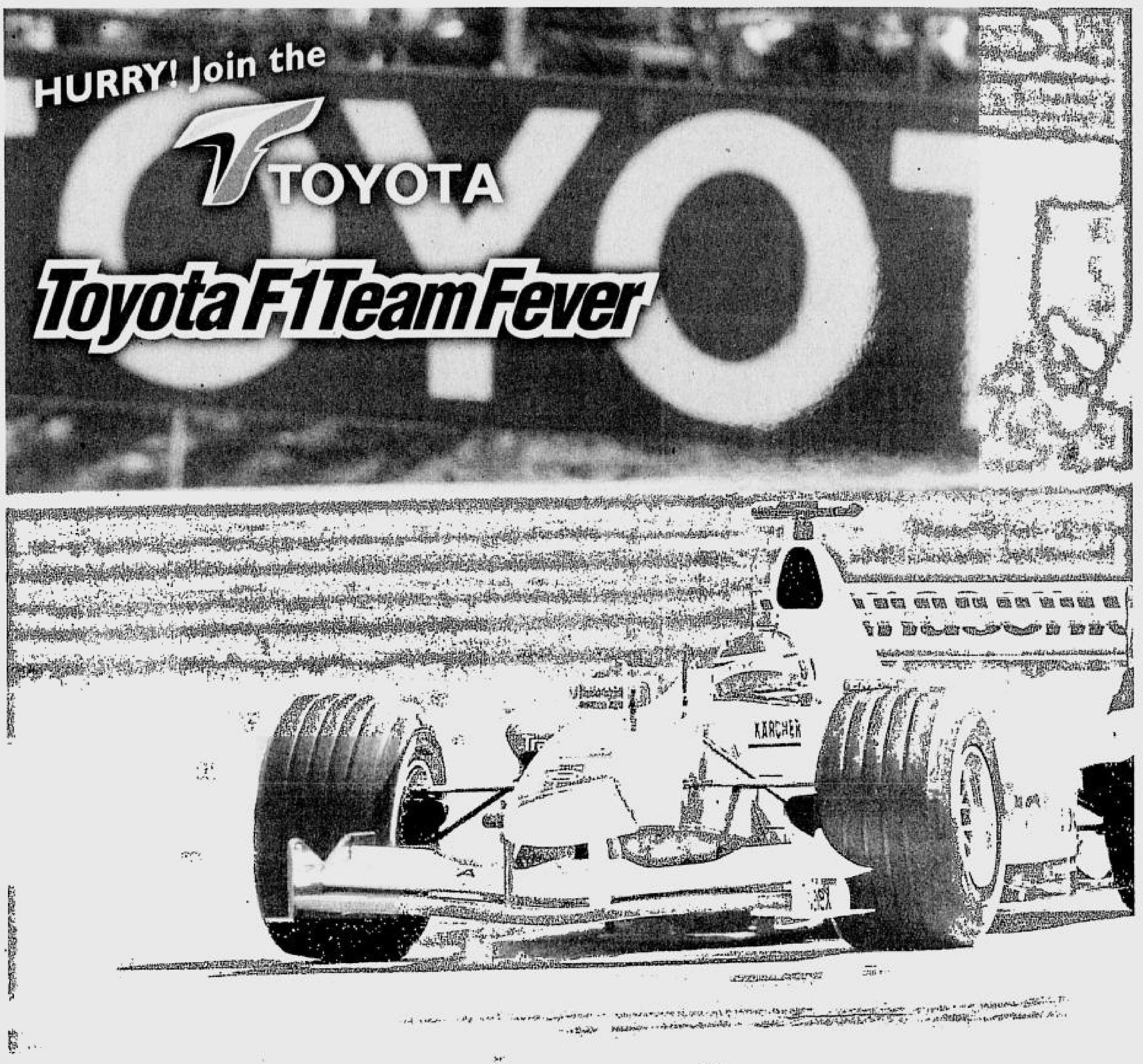
8003
8003
P 10,999
P 12,499

MAGIC SING
VIDEOKE MICROPHONE
VIDEOKE ANYTIME, ANYWHERE!

Get one now at any
ABENSON
branch nationwide

Manufactured by:
ET ENTER-TECH Company Ltd. (Korea)
www.enter-tech.com

The No. 1 MAGIC SING DISTRIBUTOR in the Philippines
in-a-jiffy enterprises
www.magicmic.com



TOYOTA
Passion

Avail of genuine Toyota or Thunder service at Toyota dealers. And get a chance to win a Toyota F1 Team Remote Control Car every week, a 10.71M(42") Panasonic Plasma TV and loads of other prizes that feed your need for speed in the grand draw

PROMO MECHANICS

Requirements:

Parts Counter Sales

For a minimum purchase of ₱3,000 (net of discount), single receipt, for any of the following, customer gets one (1) raffle coupon:
- Toyota Genuine Spare Parts
- Toyota Genuine Chemicals
- Toyota Genuine Accessories
- Toyota Dealer's Parts Sold Tires

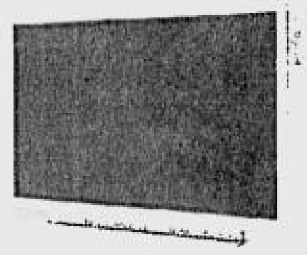
Services Sales

For every ₱500 worth availment, single receipt, for any of the following general job services, customer gets one (1) raffle coupon:
- Toyota Genuine Service (i.e. Periodic Maintenance and repair)
- Thunder Service or combination of other services
- Tire Change / Alignment or Balancing

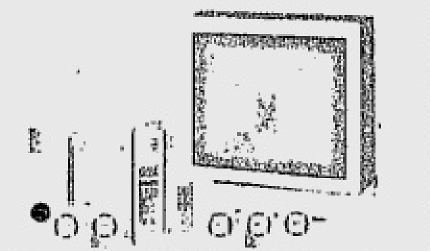
For a minimum of ₱15,000 worth availment, single receipt, for body & paint service, customer gets one (1) raffle coupon for every ₱5,000, i.e. customer gets 3 coupons for the ₱15,000.

Promo Period: July 7 - October 4, 2003
Grand Draw is on October 10, 2003

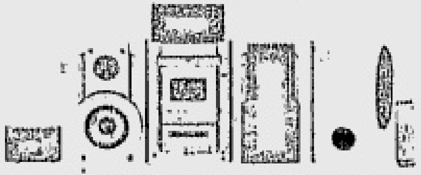
Grand Prize


42" Panasonic Plasma TV

Second Prize

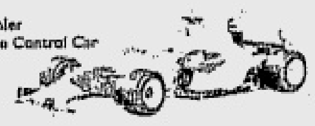

2 winners of Panasonic DVD Home Theater Showcases

Third Prize


3 winners of Panasonic DVD Mini Components

Consolation Prizes
10 winners of Panasonic DVD Players
15 winners of Panasonic Portable CD Players
20 winners of Panasonic Cordless Telephone w/ Caller ID

1 Weekly Winner per Dealer of Toyota F1 Team Remote Control Car



Panasonic TOYOTA Racing
Toyota F1 Team Fever

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2650, Series of 2003.

ISSN 0116-2642
INQUIRER
Vol. 18 No. 268
Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net

OPINION

THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 /
528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.

Publisher **ISAGANI YAMBOT**
Editor in Chief **LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC**
Managing Editor **JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO**
Associate Editor **ABELARDO S. ULANDAY**
News Editor **ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR.** • *Chief, News Day Desk* **NILO B. PAUROM**
Opinion Editor **JORGE V. ARUTA**
National Editor **PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.**
City Editor **GERRY LIRIO**
Senior Desk Editor **ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO**
Editorial Consultant **AMANDO DORONILA**
Chief Photographer **ERNIE U. SARMIENTO**
Art & Design Director **LYNETT A. VILLARIBA**

Board Chairman **MARIXI R. PRIETO**
President **ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ**
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing **RENATO R. REINOSO**
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services **DAVID O. VALDES**
VP for Advertising **FELIPE R. OLARTE**
AVP for Circulation **GLORIA P. LARDIZABAL**

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.

Political summit

EDITORIAL

THE CALL of Senate President Franklin Drilon for a political summit to defuse the uncertainties that have battered the economy during the past few weeks is not moving ahead despite the fact that President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo has endorsed it. The biggest obstacle standing in the way to the summit is that no one—either in the administration or in the fractured opposition—has a clear idea of the summit agenda. Without an agenda, the summit will just prove to be a futile exercise in political upmanship.

Opposition members are wary that the summit might be used by the administration to blame them for the difficulties now rocking the government, while the administration holds the view that the activities of the opposition politicians are intended to destabilize the government and topple it ahead of the May 2004 general elections.

With this prevailing atmosphere of mistrust and bad faith, parties to the summit will be talking past one another. The history of summitry is that summit dialogues require ample time and preparation for the definition of the issues that have to be threshed out in the dialogue. Without such a framework, the meetings could easily deteriorate into a slanging match for blame-making.

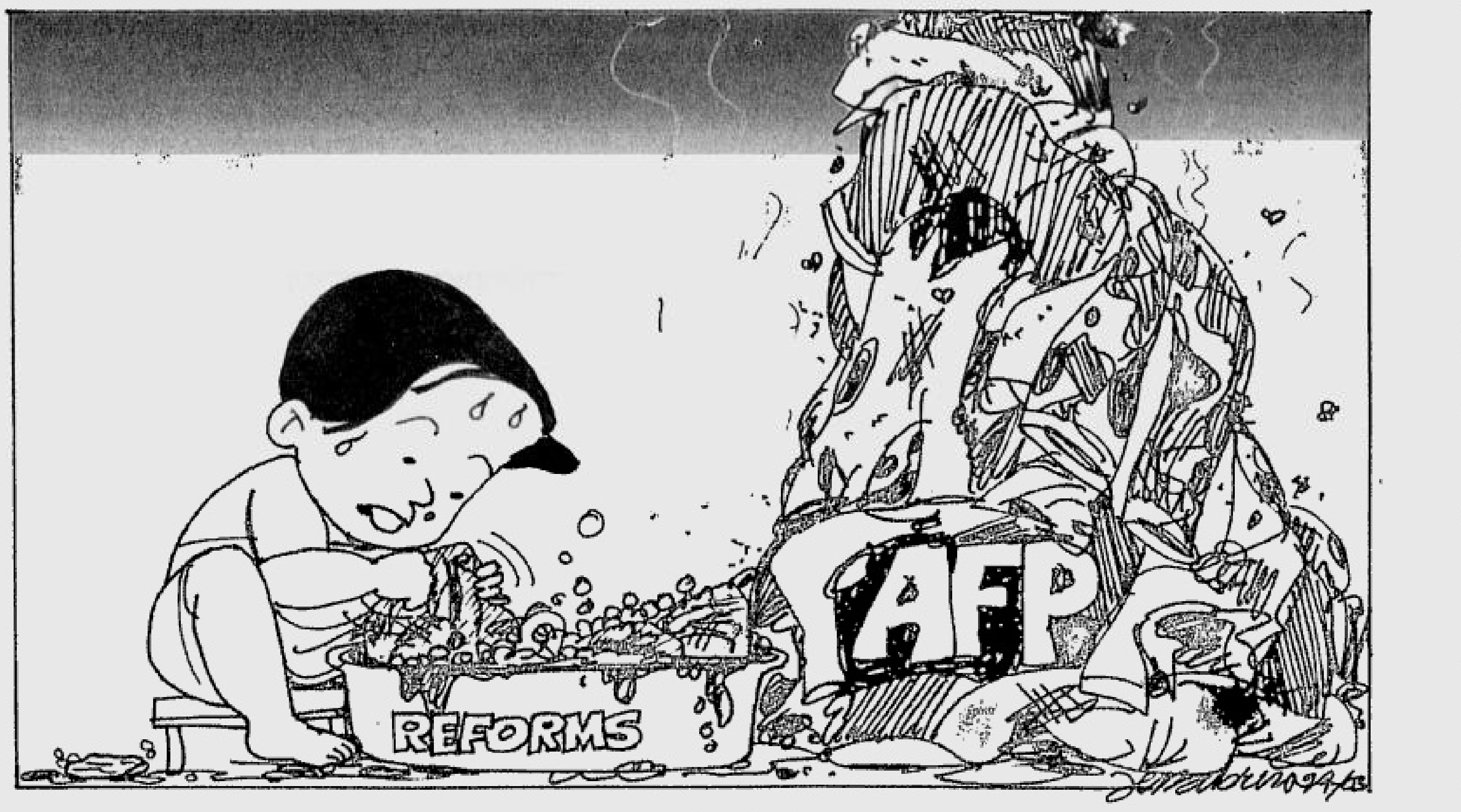
The issues of effective administration, of getting things done while the country waits for the elections have already been encapsulated in the legislative agenda forged by the Ledac (Legislative-Executive Development Advisory Council). However, when Drilon made the call, he didn't have in mind the completion of the legislative agenda; rather he sought to impress on the public mind the series of recent extraordinary events that have brought political turmoil and shaken the economy. Drilon probably thought that these events should provide the compelling circumstances for the government and its opponents to find a common ground for a dialogue that would define the issues they would confront.

These events include: the SARS epidemic; the July 27 coup; the stepped-up efforts of opposition politicians to call for the resignation of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo; the call for snap elections; the attacks launched in the Senate by opposition politician Sen. Panfilo Lacson on the President's husband, Jose Miguel Arroyo, accusing him of money laundering; and the recent decision of the Court of Appeals suspending Bangko Sentral Governor Rafael Buenaventura over the closure Urban Bank. Without having to blame anyone, there can be no doubt that this series of turbulent events has created political and economic uncertainties that have only fostered pessimism among the people and undermined public confidence in the adversarial political system itself, which is locked in internecine conflict.

If such a summit can be staged at all, the most important issue to be tackled is: reducing the level of political conflict to allow the economy to breathe and to give it respite from unabated turbulence. For businessmen, both domestic and foreign, the most unnerving are the discontinuities stemming from unexpected events that break out on short notice. Nothing is more disruptive to sustained economic growth or business planning than an avalanche of unexpected events. No one is certain what events will spring a surprise between now and the May elections. This sense of discontinuity and disruption is what drives the tailspin of the peso exchange rate. The volatility of the exchange rate is the barometer of business and public confidence in the stability of the political system.

In the face of erupting political conflicts, whether expressed by coups or opposition exposés of alleged corruption of persons close to the administration, it is undeniable that such disruptive events maul the prospects of higher economic growth.

The biggest worry today is whether the nation and the economy can survive further outbreaks of disruptive events until the next elections, the continuation of which benefits neither the administration nor its political opponents.



Nobody ever gets jailed for perjury in RP

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

DO you know why there were plenty of lightning and thunder, and the heavens poured heavy rains, causing floods in many parts of Metro Manila last Tuesday? That was the day the Senate held a hearing on the mysterious Jose Pidal bank accounts wherein First Gentleman Mike Arroyo and star witness Eugenio Mahusay testified. Arroyo denied he is Jose Pidal, and Mahusay retracted his earlier sworn statement that he saw his boss, Arroyo, sign Jose Pidal on several checks. The old folk have a standard warning to liars: "*Baka tamaan ka ng kidlat.*" (You might be hit by lightning.)

Well, God unleashed lightning bolts and a deluge while the two were testifying. Is there a connection? You be the judge.

Come to think of it, storms have been hitting the Philippines one after the other since Sen. Panfilo Lacson started his Jose Pidal exposé-by-installments. If there really is a connection, more bad weather may be in the horizon because Lacson promises to come up with a Part III of his exposé.

The seas south and east of the Philippines are known in the world as the birthplace of storms, several of which ravage Asia every year, and I think we have discovered why. Filipinos think nothing of lying through their teeth. So much lying, especially by politicians and government officials and their friends and relatives, flies back and forth that the storm-producing seas are always in turmoil.

We have laws against perjury—which is lying under oath—but these are never enforced. For example, Udong Mahusay admitted in his testimony that he had perjured himself in his first affidavit which Lacson used as the basis for his exposé. But he did not even get a slap on the wrist, nor a warning: "Remember, you are under oath and you can go to jail for lying."

But in the Philippines, nobody ever goes to jail for lying under oath. As a result, people routinely lie through their teeth, even in courts of law (and yes, in congressional investigations) and nothing happens to them. It is, therefore, very difficult to arrive at the truth during trials and hearings. Affidavits are about as worthless as residence certificates as to the truth of what are stated in them.

We spend tens of billions of pesos of taxpayers' money every year for legislators to enact laws (and conduct innumerable investigations)—so many that even judges and lawyers lose track of them. But after the laws are passed, they are not enforced.

The law against perjury has been with us for decades, but practically nobody has been sent to jail for the crime although lying is endemic in the Philippines. For a decade now, we have this law against professional squatting syndicates. But until now no syndicate member has been sent to jail, although squatting syndicates are also endemic here. There is a law against abetting and coddling squatters, but no government official or politician has ever been jailed although almost all of them are violating it.

Why then do we waste so much money for legislation—money we can't afford—when we don't enforce laws anyway?

* * *

We teach our children about George Washington who could "not tell a lie." But we teach them by our own actions that we can and usually do lie.

For example, Mike Arroyo and his younger brother Ignacio have been caught contradicting each other. Mike said in an interview with Mel Tiangco on Channel 7 Tuesday afternoon that Ignacio opened the Jose Pidal account before the Anti-Money Laundering Law (Amla) took effect in 2001. When it was about to take effect, Mike said Ignacio told him that he (Ignacio) was closing the account.

In another interview, this time with Ces Drilon on Channel 2 Tuesday evening, Ignacio said he had told Big Brother Mike about the Jose Pidal account. By that admission, Big Mike already knew by 2001 that his kid brother is Jose Pidal.

And yet, immediately after Senator Lacson's first exposé of the Jose Pidal account, Big Mike denied he is Jose Pidal, and that he didn't know who Jose Pidal is. It was only two weeks later—perhaps, after much thinking and planning—that Ignacio surfaced (again) to claim the Jose Pidal account and save his brother.

* * *

At Pia Hontiveros' talk show "Strictly Politics" on ANC Tuesday night, she asked if the Mike Arroyo/Jose Pidal corruption scandal will affect President Macapagal-Arroyo's election bid, that is, if she decided to run in 2004 and Lacson's accusations were not proven.

I replied that graft and corruption has been with us for decades, and that if we look back to history, several presidents have been struck down by "perceptions" of corruption involving presidential relatives. None of the presidents nor their relatives have been convicted of corruption by a court of law, but the public, obviously believing the accusations, voted them out of office.

As I pointed out in a previous column, President Quirino had his brother Tony. President Diosdado Macapagal also had his brother "Star" Macapagal. President Marcos had wife Imelda and brother-in-law Kokoy. President Aquino had her Kamaganak Inc. President Ramos had his alleged lover. President Estrada had his mistresses and cronies. And now President Macapagal has her Mike.

None of the corruption charges against them have yet been proven (including those against Erap), although none of them either were elected to a second term, except for Marcos. Two of them, Marcos and Erap, were not even able to finish their terms. The people, not the military, kicked them out.

Lawyers may quibble over legal niceties, but the people know better. They were not born yesterday. They decide in their hearts whether a person is guilty or not.

Will history repeat itself in the case of Gloria and Mike?

Alternatives

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

SOME people asked me recently: "But if we take Panfilo Lacson's revelations about Jose Pidal seriously, aren't we falling into the trap of supporting the opposition? Indeed, aren't we boosting Lacson's stock, turning him from heel to hero, giving him a crack at becoming president?"

Well, I grant the prospect of giving good cheer to the people we booted out at Edsa II is not a pleasant one. They were out full force last week, riding high on Lacson's exposé and even calling for snap elections. It's not easy seeing those who employed every resource to try to hide Erap's own pillage, who danced like Salome when the Senate voted not to open the second envelope, and who goaded the *masa* to *"sugod, sugod"* to Malacañang when their best-laid plans were foiled, grinning like gargoyles at the reversal of fortunes. The thought that you are helping their grins grow wider rankles.

And I grant as well Lacson stands to profit from it. At the very least, the public is bound to believe any renewed or redoubled efforts to pin him down to a variety of crimes will be tinged with persecution, an effort to silence the whistle-blower. At the very most, a portion of the public is bound to look at his presidential bid a little more sympathetically. I was listening to AM radio last week, and quite a number of listeners, mostly from Metro Manila, said that if elections were held now, they would vote for Lacson.

None of these argues for taking his revelations about Jose Pidal less seriously.

This was in fact exactly the same argument I heard during Erap's time. Particularly the Christmas before his term was abruptly terminated by "people power." I got into a fairly spirited argument with a friend of mine who worked in the Erap administration. Granted the administration was corrupt, she said, would you rather it was headed by Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo? Because she was going to be the main beneficiary of Erap's departure, she said. She was next in line. Would that make things better?

I granted as well the prospect was not a pleasant one. Never mind that GMA herself had been accused of running a campaign tainted by *jueteng* money, courtesy of Bong Pineda. What was more patent were a couple of things. One was that as a legislator, she had devoted herself to pushing for GATT and the rule of WTO in this country, whose disastrous effects in declining agricultural productivity, closed factories and rising unemployment had already become apparent in 2000, five years after the Senate ratified the treaty. It was clear her rule would be characterized by an open embrace of the American cause. I did not know just how tightly the embrace would be.

Two was that she had done nothing to earn the position. Cory had fought Marcos, Gloria had not fought Erap. Indeed, not until after the whole country was afire did she lift a finger to oust Erap. She had not led, she had followed. She had not risked, she had played safe. That did not augur well for the kind of rule she would unleash.

Quite apart from that, I had seen GMA's lieutenants in the anti-Erap coalitions and was dismayed by their levels of self-interest. To their credit, Dinky Soliman and Dan Songco at least had been there from the start, protesting Erap's misrule when it seemed nothing could be done to stop him. The others were not. I never saw them when the students raised hell over Erap's plan to bury Marcos in Libingan ng mga Bayani. I never saw them when the press protested the shutting down of the Manila Times and the attempt to do the same to the INQUIRER. I did write a column then suggesting pagbabago issue a statement saying its members would not seek a position in government to demonstrate the purity of its motives. No one picked up the suggestion. Ambition has been known to transform decent people into the ogres they wish to slay. It was clear this would be no exception.

None of this, I argued, precluded the need to impeach Erap. The possibility that a future leader would be just as bad as, or worse than, the one we are replacing, does not vitiate the need to stop a tyrant. Ending a tyranny is a moral imperative. If the problem is that the current tyrant may be replaced by another one, then the solution is to make sure the successor does not become so. Or if it is possible, to make sure that the current tyrant is not replaced by someone with tyrannical tendencies. The solution is to continue to struggle and not rest on laurels. The solution is vigilance.

That is my position as well today. We may not stop protesting the corruption and misrule of the GMA government, or dilute it, simply because Lacson, or the opposition, is no better. If they are not better, then let us make damn sure they do not succeed GMA and mount a tyranny of their own, or resurrect the one they had before. Why should we agree to an either-or proposition? Either GMA or the coup plotters? Either GMA or Erap? Either GMA or Lacson? Why only them?

The choice is certainly better today than it was during Erap's time. Then ousting Erap truly meant accepting GMA because she was the legal successor. Unless you went by Popoy Lagman's call for "Resign All," which, for all its wisdom, meant fraying constitutional nerves even more. Today, the choice is by no means stark. We oust Gloria (I suggest the elections next year are the natural venue for this, though we may by no means stop exposing her government's sins, or protesting them), we do not have to embrace Lacson at all. We are not so impoverished we have no alternatives at all. We have a wealth of them in fact.

Not all roads away from GMA lead to Lacson. At the very least, there are all sorts of paths leading to green pastures. At the very most, we can always blaze new trails.

Backlash

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

THERE is a backlash building across the nation against the second privilege speech of Sen. Panfilo Lacson last Monday afternoon. Many decent elements are appalled at the way he used a combination of scathing malice, and vulgar and cheap language to attack the President, the First Gentleman and his former secretary, Vicky Toh. They decry the way he punctuated every revelation of an alleged bank account or transaction of Mike Arroyo and his friends with "Jose Pidal, *alam ba ni* Mrs. *ito*(h)," no less than 20 times, and his showing of a purported love letter of Toh to Mike A. I agree. *Hawa talaga.*

* * *

Over the decades, the Senate has seen numerous exposés of all sorts. We can recall some very sensational ones, such as the Stonehill exposé, Ninoy Aquino's exposé on the Jabidah Massacre and then Sen. Teofisto Guingona's famous "J'Accuse" in July 2000. In our democratic set-up, there is room and need for exposés, but there is a standard of parliamentary behavior that has to be observed in that once-august chamber. This is why senators go through the motions of calling each other "The Gentleman from this or that place." But even in the worst of exposés, the Senate never saw the cheapness and vulgarity that Lacson resorted to. In the Senate impeachment trial, some delicate personal circumstances of the former president were handled in a very professional and dignified manner. In hurling his allegations, Lacson hid "behind the skirt of parliamentary immunity," as Mike A. put it, but abused it with un-parliamentary language and tone which were *pang-tabloid lang*. Obviously, he relishes the privilege but disdains the responsibility.

* * *

At the joint committee hearings next day, he was at it again, calling his former star witness, Udong Mahusay, to view some photos that he announced to the world as "*malalaswa*" (salacious), in an attempt to titillate the nation some more about the supposed love affair. The vulgarity of his privilege speech offended not only the Arroyos but all the decent elements in the nation. Moreover, it desecrated the Senate, which has over the past decade been suffering from serious image problems, and insulted not only the incumbent senators but also the memory of great senators over the decades, such as, Claro M. Recto, Jose P. Laurel, Emmanuel Pelaez, Raul Manglapus and Marcelo Fernan. One observer said that the senators should have walked out in protest over their colleague's vulgar language and tone, but unfortunately they were all taken aback by his allegations; one or two of them hinted later that they realized they were staring at what seemed like the actuations of a police state.

* * *

The sad part is that in his wholesale maligning of people, Lacson offered not a shred of evidence to support his allegations. Last Tuesday, Sen. Robert Barbers stressed that not one senator has received any document or evidence from him, as he questioned the rationale of continuing the hearings. Earlier that morning, Senate President Franklin Drilon also pressed the need for Lacson to substantiate his allegations. A few days earlier, Sen. Aquilino Pimentel remarked that Lacson has to produce the evidence or sink. I later asked Sen. Joker Arroyo, chair of the blue ribbon committee, about Barbers' assertion and he admitted that they had nothing in evidence. The joint hearing, therefore, was running purely on the steam of what INQUIRER columnist Amando Doronila termed Lacson's "fishing exercise." Moreover, some of his allegations are being disproved: the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office check for P1.3 million that he claimed went to the Jose Pidal account was shown by Honey Girl de Leon to have been issued for only P23,000 to a lotto winner. Much earlier, the Bank of the Philippine Islands disclaimed having a Jose Pidal account, nor a branch in Perea Street. Now that it has been shown that campaign contributions are not "fruits of a crime," Lacson has stopped citing them as the source of Mike's funds.

Two prominent business leaders, Raul Concepcion and Donald Dee, have asked that the Senate either conduct the investigations behind closed doors to avoid the distracting sensationalism, or transfer the case to the courts' jurisdiction, which is the proper venue. But Lacson may not want this, as it wouldn't bring him the political mileage of a Senate hearing; moreover, in court, he has to produce solid evidence which he seems not to have.

* * *

My good friend Mundy Gonzalez from UPSCA days e-mailed to ask for help in reaching the old UP Aztecs and our contemporaries. The Confraternity of Aztecs will celebrate its 50th foundation anniversary with a reunion of "friends and contemporaries" this Saturday, Sept. 6, at 7:30 p.m., at the Turf Room of the Manila Polo Club in Makati. The men are requested to wear barong Tagalog and black pants and the ladies, smart casual.

The confraternity was originally an informal group organized by male students from the different colleges of the University of the Philippines, bonded together by the strong moral influence of the late UP Catholic chaplain John P. Delaney, S.J. Later it extended its membership to students from other schools who shared their ideals. Over the years many Aztec members became prominent in academe, government, business, the military and various professions. This Saturday's 50th anniversary reunion is intended to be an occasion for renewing old friendships and recollecting shared experiences among students who grew up in the '50s and '60s. Aztec members and contemporaries who have not yet been reached are enjoined to call Rene Africa (842-6596), Tony Aguenza (922-3119), Manny Velasco (426-0827) or Mundy Gonzalez (824-7672 or 821-9236).

Machos and 'women's work'

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

ONE of the newest shows on TV is a "macho" challenge, hewing to the very popular "reality-TV" genre, where a bunch of muscular and athletic men (many of them are gym instructors) are housed in one residence where they are to live together and compete against one another as they try to meet different challenges.

The "catch" and the gimmick is that, instead of physical challenges to test their strength and endurance, these "machos" are required to master tasks that the producers describe as "women's work." What, I wondered, do they consider "women's work"? Judging from the first episode, it seems they think going to market, cooking *kare-kare* and even setting the table are tasks fit only for women, or at least would be an embarrassment for any red-blooded male.

My husband and I were incredulous. In our family, it's he who loves to do the cooking and the marketing, and he's never shown any hint of embarrassment about it. In fact, the judge at the food tasting was another man, a professional chef, who seemed to take his line of work matter of factly.

I wish "Macho Challenge" all the best, but I think the producers should even now rethink the concept. The comedy potential of the machos going to market (wearing *bakya*) and bending over hot stoves to produce *kare-kare* fell flat, I'm afraid, largely because the presence of men in wet markets and in the kitchen has long ceased being novel or new. Have the creative people who thought up the show's concept been hiding under a rock? Have they been unaware that, through the last 30 years at least, men's and women's "proper" roles in society have undergone a radical change? No longer are domestic responsibilities divided by an unyielding demarcation line between "his" and "hers," with many couples forging their own agreements on how to share the work of taking care of the home and raising children. It's so retro and so "five minutes ago" to think that the public would still think it worth their time and attention to see men doing "women's work." It's just basic survival work, folks, and you don't have to be a woman to do it.

* * *

THIS Saturday, Sept. 6, the TOWNS Foundation formally launches the TOWNS Search 2004 before the curtain raising of the musical "Alikabok" at the AFP Theater in Camp Aguinaldo at 8 p.m.

TOWNS stands for The Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service, an award that is given every three years to women who've not only excelled in their own fields, but have also helped build the nation in the process. First given out in 1974, the TOWNS awards have since recognized 115 outstanding Filipino women, many of whom went on to greater heights or excelled in other fields after receiving this recognition.

Nina Lim Yuson, president of the TOWNS Foundation which is composed of all past awardees, said they hope to receive more nominations this year, especially from outside Metro Manila, in recognition of women who may not have reached national prominence but are doing extraordinary work in their own communities.

Chair of this year's Search is Dr. Perla Santos Ocampo, who was an awardee with the first batch of TOWNS, together with Rosa Rosal and former Supreme Court Justice Flerida Ruth Romero, among others. The TOWNS awards were first held under the auspices of Lions International, but have since been taken over by the TOWNS Foundation, with the continued cooperation of the Lions.

Nomination forms will be available at the launch and may be obtained from any TOWNS awardee or at the Museo Pambata.

Saturday night's staging of "Alikabok," produced by Celeste Legaspi, a TOWNS awardee herself, is proof of how this gathering of women has proved to be a resource not just of talent and role models for young women, but also of generosity and openness of heart. To make it possible for more young people, especially students from public schools, to watch "Alikabok," the TOWNS women pooled their own funds, as well as solicited sponsorships, for the event. So if you know any woman who's done outstanding work in her field and contributed to the betterment of society, nominate her for TOWNS now.

* * *

FOR lovers of musical theater, there's another treat for you when pagbabago@pilipinas Foundation, with the support of Nestlé Philippines, presents the final performance of Jason Robert Brown's award-winning musical "The Last Five Years."

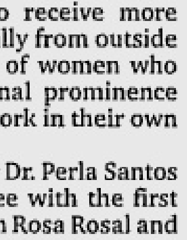
This takes place on Sunday, September 14, at 3:30 p.m. at the Carlos P. Romulo Theater, RCBC Plaza, Ayala Avenue, Makati. The performance benefits various socio-civic activities of pagbabago, including a nationwide "action/reflection" on leadership.

The leads of "The Last Five Years," Menchu Lauchengco Yulo and Audie Gemora, performed some numbers during a dinner hosted by Doris Ho at her home for pagbabago members. This "taste" of the musical was enough to pique my interest. Truly, Menchu and Audie are two of our most gifted but underrated talents and it's only fitting that "The Last Five Years" is also being staged by Actors Actors Inc. to celebrate their 25th year as theater professionals.

Time Magazine listed "The Last Five Years" as one of the best plays of 2001. It has won a slew of awards, including the Drama Desk Awards for best music and lyrics. A romantic and thoroughly modern examination of a contemporary marriage, the musical tells the story of the break-up of their marriage from the point of view of husband and wife, telling one story from two different viewpoints and two opposite timelines. As director Bart Guingona tells it, the storytelling device presented a challenge to him as he needed to "clarify the dual timeframes without succumbing to gimmickry." For ticket information, text 0918-9001488, or secure tickets at the gate or from any pagbabago member.

Learning from Lyngdoh

HUMAN FACE



Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

TWO evenings ago, the INQUIRER had, as guest, James Michael Lyngdoh, 2003 Ramon Magsaysay Awardee for Government Service. The RM Award Foundation recognized Lyngdoh's "convincing validation of free and fair elections as the foundation and best hope of secular democracy in strife-torn India."

As the head of the Election Commission, Lyngdoh oversees elections in India which has a population of more than one billion and 650 million voters. India's number of voters is about eight times the entire population of the Philippines.

India is a country with many diverse cultures and languages as well as chronic religious, caste and class tensions. It is more than just a country, it is a civilization. Novelist V.S. Naipaul described India as a wounded civilization. In so many ways so rich and yet so poor, so ancient and yet contemporary. Land of mystics and maharajahs, Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore. I stayed in India many years ago for about seven months and there is no one way I could describe the experience. Maybe amazing will do.

Before Lyngdoh spoke to INQUIRER reporters and columnists, publisher Isagani Yambot asked, by way of introducing him, what we thought the biggest event in the world was. No one had a clue. Was it sports, was it people power, was it a religious event? The answer was not obvious: Indian elections. It is a massive undertaking that involves so many people and resources, much time and energy. The faint of heart need not apply.

What got us all excited was India's fail-safe voting machines, each of which costs a mere $200. Lyngdoh said they have 900,000 of these guitar-sized push-button machines. Staggered voting may take a while but overall counting takes only a couple of hours. But this is not what his RM award was all about.

Lyngdoh's test was in the troubled states of Jammu and Kashmir where India was always eyeball to eyeball with Pakistan and local secessionists. Kashmir is a predominantly Muslim state in Hindu-dominated India but Lyngdoh said Kashmiris are not rooting for either country. They want to carve their own destiny. Cynics did not believe credible state elections could be held in 2002. Lyngdoh and his fellow commissioners were not fazed.

Assassination and boycott threats did not deter Lyngdoh. He pushed for the updating and verification of election lists, introduced voting IDs and added new voting sites. ID cards, Lyngdoh stressed, are vital to clean elections. He recruited non-partisan poll officers, told the army to stand clear and used local and paramilitary forces from outside the state.

"Vote fearlessly," he urged the people. The voter turnout in Kashmir last year was 44 percent, something that surprised critics. Many called it the triumph of ballots over bullets.

Gujarat state was another story. After 58 Hindu pilgrims were killed in a terrorist attack last February, Hindus retaliated by slaughtering hundreds of Muslims and setting fire to their homes. The Hindi ruling Bharatiya Janata Party dissolved the state government and called for elections. Lyngdoh said no, not until passions had simmered down. He set up polling places for Muslim refugees and called for the transfer of anti-Muslim officials and policemen. He banned campaign activities that incited Hindu-Muslim feelings.

Last December, elections were held in Gujarat with 61 percent turnout. Skeptics were convinced. Said Lyngdoh: "The real heroes are the voters of these two states who reposed abiding faith in the democratic process."

Lyngdoh has had his share of detractors. Being a Christian, he was being linked, without basis, with the Congress Party led by Italian-born Sonia Gandhi, widow of the assassinated Rajiv Gandhi. He laughed this off, saying he had no religion as far as elections were concerned.

"The Election Commission remains constantly at its wits' end to neutralize all those who are inimical to the cause of good elections," Lyngdoh said. "We in the Commission today, fortunately enjoy the highest public trust in the country—a trust established over a period of sustained effort and struggle." Would that our own Comelec officials could say the same of themselves.

Lyngdoh gave credit to the media. "Their aggressive, pervasive and intrusive presence made every level of election authority subject to immediate scrutiny. Because of this, the media helped to create an environment where transgressions became visible..."

Lyngdoh also hailed the Indian middle class for raising a collective voice for fairness and for forcing candidates to be transparent, declare their assets and even their criminal past.

Lyngdoh, 64, is of Khasi tribal origin from the extreme northeastern part of India. His father, a district judge, instilled in him strong moral values. Lyngdoh finished his education in Delhi and joined the elite Indian Administrative Service at the age of 22. He was a fellow at Princeton and Harvard.

As a government official, Lyngdoh has been known for his probity and toughness and for taking the side of the underdog. His execution of land reform enraged landlords but he continued to rise in government. He became chief of the Elections Commission in 1991.

You can't put a good man down.

* * *

Voter's ID. New registration, verification and validation are going on till October. I waited five hours to finish the process—electronic thumbmarking, signing and all—because there was only one machine in our barangay. Could this voter's ID serve as the national ID which has been opposed by clandestine and underground operators?

* * *

Send comments to cerespd@info.com.ph

Test flight

YOUNG BLOOD

Jennifer Ruby Baylon

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—Ed.

DEAR Mom:

Since I was born, you have been writing me letters even before I was able to understand them fully. These letters have been bridging the distance between us.

From time to time, I have scribbled a note or two but I always felt it was not enough. My words could not really capture the rawness of emotions inside me. No matter how hard we tried, our letters could not quite compensate for what we had been missing.

It seems as though in my entire lifetime, we have been apart despite our physical proximity. Even our longing for one another is not enough to transcend that which keeps us apart.

Perhaps I am to blame. I have remained elusive. I hate to be vulnerable to your love especially at this point in time.

It has been exactly two months since I last saw you. I can still see those images even now as I write.

It was a Monday morning in May. You were seated at the backseat of the van. Since it was pouring hard, I volunteered to move my things and proceeded to check in my baggage. I promised I'd be back but I never did. I left without hugs, without kisses—not even words of goodbye.

I must confess I did not want to meet your gaze. I did not want to see how much you were hurting in silence. I could read in your eyes your silent plea for me to stay.

I had to go. We both knew that this would happen eventually. Perhaps, you did not expect it to be that way.

But I have grown wings, Mom. The young caterpillar has become an excited butterfly. I have to fly away sooner, otherwise my wings might grow numb and weak.

The world is really big. If I don't start now, I'll get left behind. I do not want to be a passive spectator as the world spins around. I want to be a part of it.

As I rummaged through the stuff I brought along, I found the small note that you smuggled among my things. You asked, "What is in store for a butterfly who has never ever known how it is to be home or who has never known what and where is home?"

Now I have to ask you in reply, "How do you know that I know not?"

Home is not a place I go to when I get lost or merely a roof over my head where I seek shelter when the rain pours. Home is where I can feel comfortable getting lost in. I am home when I can walk the earth in my bare feet and dance in the rain freely.

I am out for a grand self-discovery here. I am gaining a clearer perspective of who I am and who I am becoming moment by moment. I am becoming a keen student of life. I am taking my time with growing up, though.

On that same fateful Monday morning as I sailed through the stormy seas, I knew that my very own "personal legend" (as Paulo Coehlo calls it) was starting to unfold. It is indeed a vast space out there and yes, scary, because for the first time in my life, I am out here on my own. I have deliberately taken a blind leap holding on to nothing to answer the call of love.

Although I have more questions than answers, it is not by accident that I am where I am right now. There must be more than one reason why I am here.

Right now, I am simply allowing reason to get into its own rhythm as it reveals itself to me. I am losing myself while trying to find my own place in the world. Life is not always fair but hey, living is always worth a try. I'll never know what awaits me if I do not venture forward.

There are no short cuts in this trip. Neither is this a detour; this is the journey itself. Despite all the uncertainties, one thing is certain: I dreamed to be here. Though I am taking a road less traveled, my soul is at peace.

I want to see what these wings are made of and there is no better way to find out than by getting off the ground. I am on a test flight now. I still have so much to learn but I believe that everything will eventually fall into place. Everything will be worth the wait.

Suddenly this young butterfly is gaining more insights as she begins to see how the world looks like from the top. I am still conquering my fear of heights, though.

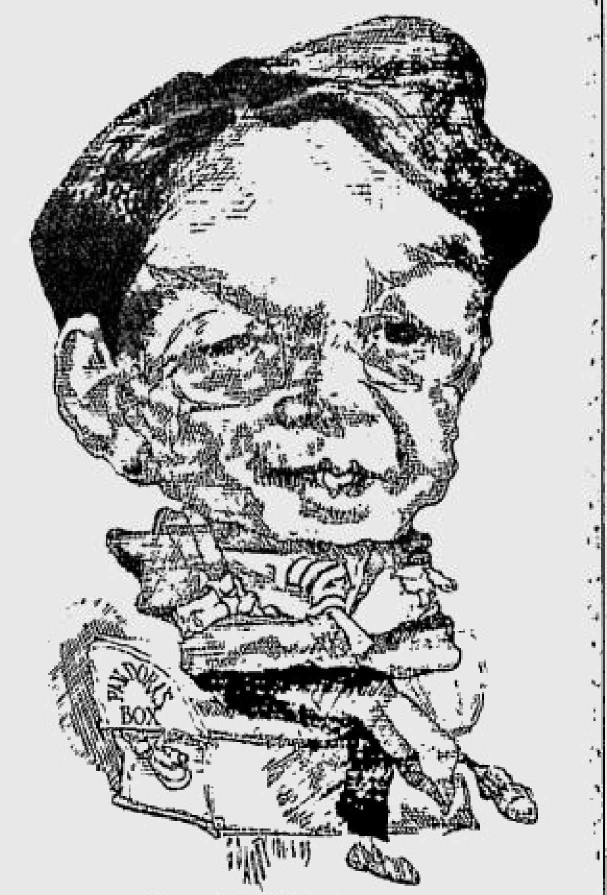
As Trina Paulus puts it, "You must want to fly so high so much that you are willing to give up being a caterpillar." I am done with crawling. And maybe, it is about time we closed some chapters, too.

I will be back but I won't be the same person who left. Perhaps then, there will be more than enough reasons for me to stay. I must warn you though that I won't be "coming" home because as my journey unfolds, I take home with me wherever I go.

When my wings are strong enough, I will fly back. One day as you sit quietly in some corner, a beautiful butterfly will alight on the palm of your hand.

Jennifer Ruby S. Baylon, 21, works as a Jesuit Volunteers of the Philippines in Zamboanga City.

IN THE NEWS



Sen. Panfilo Lacson

Proud to be a Filipino

EVERY day, newspapers and television are flooded with images of violence and bickering politicians, and reports on the bad state of our economy, the peace and order situation in Mindanao and lately, the failed mutiny and the media battle between those concerned.

But despite all these, I would just like to take the readers' mind away from all this negative news by sharing a recent incident which once again awakened my pride in being a Filipino.

Last Friday, August 15, around 4 p.m., my friend and I were driving along C-5 from Guadalupe going to Libis in Quezon City. We were stuck in heavy traffic. Suddenly, white smoke burst out of the car's hood as the electrical system failed and the engine died down.

The car would not start again, to the irritation of the drivers behind us. And just our bad luck, a towing truck was behind us and immediately maneuvered in front to tow our car.

We knew we would have to pay P1,500 for the towing service, plus more fees at city hall to redeem the car, not to mention the repair expenses. But my friend had only P300 with him and I, P200.

Luckily, we got stalled in front of the Toyota Center at 124 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Bo. Ugong, Pasig City. Seeing that we were about to be victimized by the towing men, the center's security guard on duty, Charlito Mosca, lost no time in calling service adviser Nelson Taruc.

We paid the three-man crew of the tow truck P200 to bring our car to the Toyota Center with Mosca clearing a path in the traffic. Taruc checked the car. He traced the problem and fixed it. We offered Taruc some cash which he refused. We even trailed him back to the office to offer him a small reward but he resolutely declined.

Perhaps Taruc and Mosca thought it was no big deal. But for ordinary citizens in need, for skeptical people who do not expect help and courtesy from strangers, it made a whole lot of difference.

When push comes to shove, when things get tough, Filipinos will always rally behind each other and will not hesitate to help a fellow Pinoy in need. In the face of crises, the Filipino will always succeed. My highest praises for Mr. Taruc and Mr. Mosca. *Mabuhay po kayo!*

—BEE-JAY N. BUSTAMANTE,
23-a Kalayaan Ave.,
Cembo, Makati City

Apologies for a giant

REP. Raul Gonzales ought to apologize to Sen. Aquilino Pimentel for his irresponsible statements, portraying Pimentel as a vindictive, and sniping politician with an axe to grind against the Macapagal administration. (PDI, 8/27/03)

Truth is, Pimentel will never be and it is too late in the night to be grinding axes and entertaining frustrations in his life. He is beyond any political accommodations whose vision for our country—to emerge some day with a federal system of government as the most effective means to achieve development—definitely transcends petty personal frustrations.

Fact is, some people will never appreciate this giant passing in our midst.

—RAFAEL V. ABROGAR,
15 17th Street,
Nazareth,
Cagayan de oro City

Move military camps outside Metro Manila

THE MILITARY camps in Metro Manila have become anachronisms. In the '50s they were at the outskirts of the city of Manila, then mostly grassland and thinly, if at all, populated. Today, they are well within the thickly populated areas of the metro area occupying very valuable pieces of real estate. A glaring example of a mislocation is the military camp in Fort Bonifacio which is hemmed in by affluent Makati and burgeoning Taguig.

Let us now convert to private commercial use these real properties and transfer the military camps to the provinces where they could better serve their intended purpose. Otherwise and eventually, we would have tank bunkers, barracks and parade grounds standing beside skyscrapers.

The Al-Ghozi escape could not have happened had Camp Crame been located in relative isolation, and where escape to an adjacent residential area is not possible. Incidentally, aren't Muslim terrorists in a Taguig jail just adjacent to a Muslim village? Moreover, coup attempts would be less likely to succeed as movements in camps located far from the city can be easily monitored.

—DINO B. VILLONES,
Gen. Espino con Ballecer Street,
Signal Village, Taguig

Clowning around

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan

EUGENIO (Udong) Mahusay Jr. should be made the lead character in a telenovela, or be used as a great case study for understanding Philippine society and culture. Let's look at his story.

A wall runs around the perimeter of the plush La Vista subdivision in Quezon City, dividing the rich and the poor. On one side live the Arroyos and, apparently just over their side of the wall, is the community where the Mahusays live.

One fateful day, the Arroyos invite the Mahusays over to play basketball, the beginning of a friendship. The class divisions in the Philippines can be formidable, yet there are cracks in the fence that make it easy to cross the divisions, given certain circumstances and subject to certain limitations.

Basketball seems to be one such social leveler, but, like cockfighting, the effects are transient. In fact, I sometimes suspect these activities are used by the elite to project a more down-to-earth image. Politicians are notorious for visiting cockpits on Sundays to indulge in their own favorite vice as well as to show the gods can descend to the level of the mortals and mix with the masses. At day's end, after basketball or cockfighting, people return to their homes, taking their usual places on opposite sides of the fence.

In the case of the Mahusays, a next step is taken: Arroyo gives the Mahusays jobs. Note how employment in the Philippines is often obtained through connections and, therefore, carries obligations of gratitude to be paid back. You owe the person who gives you a job.

As the employee stays longer, showing loyalty, the employer may become very trusting and begin to assign more and more work, including very sensitive responsibilities. I know one wealthy woman who trusts her housekeeper with her ATM cards, complete with pin numbers so the housekeeper can be sent off to deposit and withdraw money.

The bonds of loyalty are further reinforced when the employer, as happened to Mike Arroyo, becomes *ninong* (godfather) or *ninang* (godmother) to the employee. Mike Arroyo was godfather at Udong's wedding, but it doesn't quite matter what sacrament is involved. Easily, Mike Arroyo could have become *ninong* at the baptism of one of Udong's children, in which case he would have become a *compadre* (loose translation: co-parent).

Among equals, the *ninong/ninang* or *compadre/comadre* relationships deepen the ties, building reciprocal obligations close to the original intention of Christianity: the child's *ninong* or *ninang* promises to care for the child if something happens to the biological parent.

These days, we know the *ninong/ninang* and *compadre/comadre* institutions have become totally corrupted, used to build connections for business or political reasons. Priests explain to me that they only allow one or two pairs of *ninongs* and *ninangs* to be listed on the baptismal or wedding certificate. But they have to turn a blind eye to the invitations to the baptism or wedding which list, literally, dozens of sponsors. The record number I've heard so far is 78 sponsors for a baptism.

Politicians know that the *ninong/ninang* role brings votes. Again, like the visits to the cockfights, consenting to become *ninong* or *ninang* softens the more authoritarian feudal relationship. What better way would there be for the gods to become human than by becoming ritual kin? Former president Erap Estrada was notorious in this regard, with so many godchildren that they eventually formed an NGO of their own. I can't remember anymore how many members there were but one of their leaders claimed the numbers reached the thousands.

People will actually vote for a candidate because of some imputed relationship in a terribly expanded network of ritual kinship: Let's vote for so-and-so because he's the *ninong* of the neighbor of my mother's cousin's friend. People will go on to praise the politician as "*mabait*" (kind), his becoming a *ninong*, and doling out a bag of free groceries every Christmas, cited as irrefutable proof that he will make a good mayor, governor or even president.

These networks are of course terribly flawed. On very shaky foundations, feudalism sets the bar too high in terms of obligations. In a patron-client relationship, the powerful one expects unrequited loyalty, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, from the client.

On the part of the client, there are expectations, too. They know, as well, that all they get is the loose change and begin to resent the demands. Tensions rise when one begins to mistrust the other. Udong Mahusay has claimed he had a grudge against Mike Arroyo when he took sides with Vicky Toh, who had accused Udong of stealing a cell phone.

Who knows what happened afterwards to Udong after he left disgruntled? Feudal values do not work very well in a world that has become capitalist, loyalty becoming a commodity, available to the highest bidder. Those close to the gods realize the possibilities of becoming gods themselves.

In the case of the Philippines, the plots remain complicated because when all's said and done, we're still in the Dark Ages, retaining the worst of feudalism even with all the trappings of a modern market economy. Only in the Philippines where one can find a public that would just shrug their shoulders after Udong, then in the custody (or protection) of Ping Lacson, was rescued (or abducted) by two presidential helicopters and a Cabinet member. Again, who knows what went through Udong's mind as he was spirited off in the helicopter.

I suspect that like the mythical Icarus, Udong realized he had flown too close to the sun, his feathers now withering and him ready to plunge into the sea. Should we be surprised then that Udong should emerge born-again, repentant, recanting his affidavit against his *ninong*, and begging forgiveness, even while admitting to having a grudge against the *ninong*?

Sen. Robert Jaworski, after listening to Udong Mahusay's testimony, angrily called Udong a clown and called for punishments against people like him. Clearly, there were memories in those august chambers of the "exposés" of an earlier clown, Ador Mawanay.

Our feudal lords have turned smug and complacent, thinking they've fooled the masses with their patronage. But one wonders. Mawanay and Mahusay are the failed clowns. There are others, more successful, who have clowned their way into power, serving local and foreign masters by playing to our conceits, puffing up our egos with their "Yes, Sir" and "Sorry, Ma'am." We find the clowns entertaining, unaware that perhaps we are a nation run and ruined by clowns.

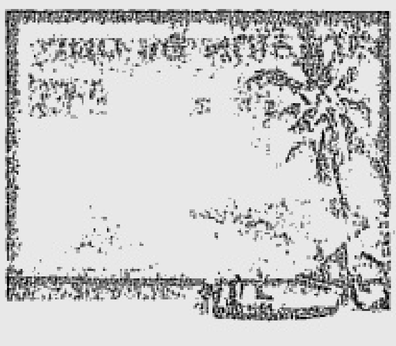
IF you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.

Philippine Airlines

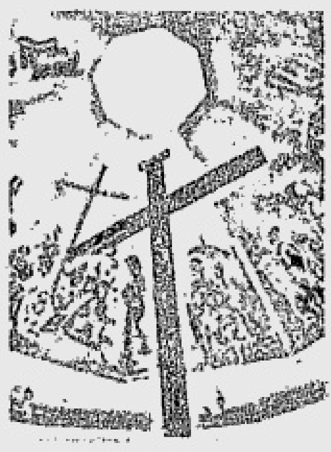
PALakbayan

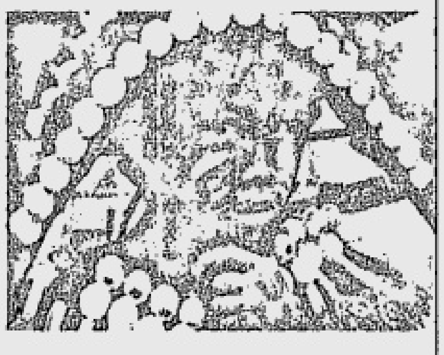
SUPER SAVER



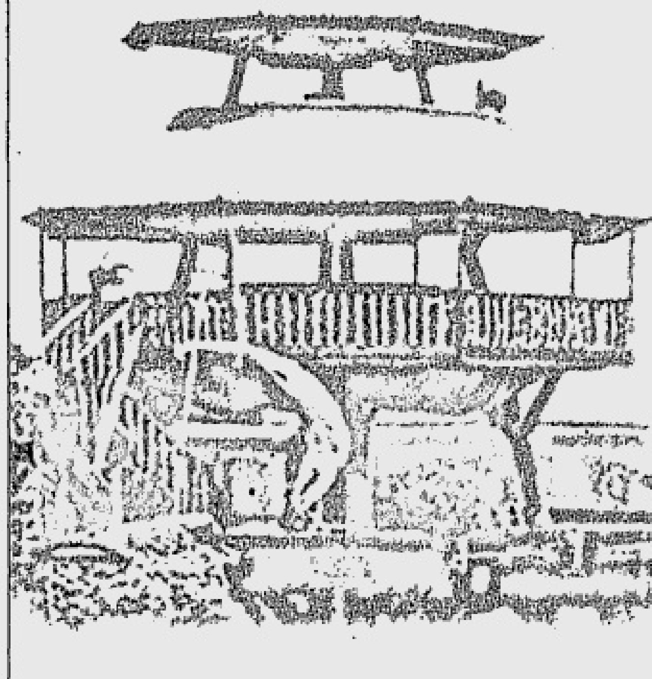
BORACAY
For As Low As
~~PHP7264~~
PHP4767

CEBU
For As Low As
~~PHP6106~~
PHP4030

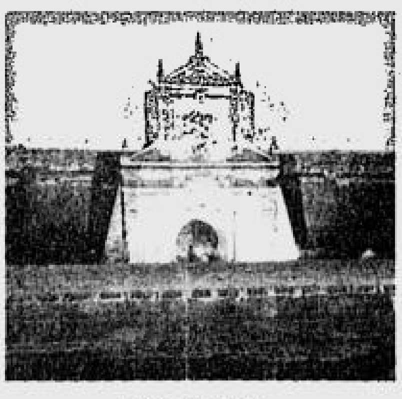




ILOILO
For As Low As
~~PHP6685~~
PHP4030



DAVAO
For As Low As
~~PHP7153~~
PHP4998



MANILA
For As Low As
PHP4556
from CEBU, ILOILO & KALIBO
PHP5440
from DAVAO & PUERTO PRINCESA

Palakbayan Tour Packages include airfare and land arrangements, and are for sale ONLY in the Philippines.

Above rates are based on twin-sharing accommodation and are subject to change without prior notice.

Hurry! Valid July to September 2003 on specific PAL flights only.

For bookings and inquiries, please call PAL Reservations in:

Manila	(02)	855-8888
Cebu	(032)	340-0191
Davao	(082)	221-5313 / 221-5641 222-0366 / 226-4604
Iloilo	(033)	320-3030 / 320-3131
Kalibo	(036)	262-3260 / 262-3263
Puerto Princesa	(048)	433-4565

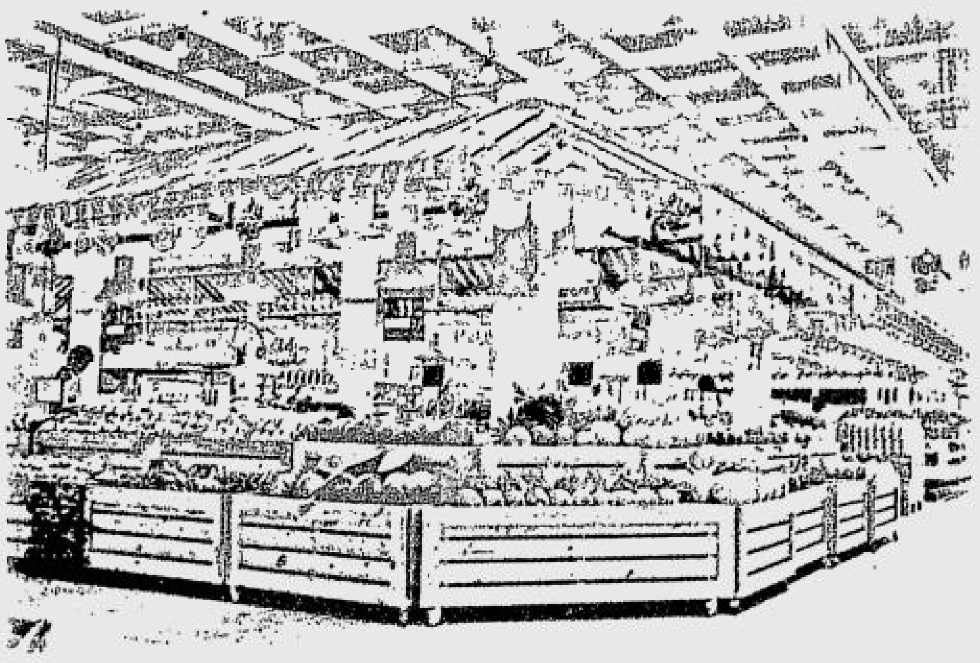
Visit the nearest PAL Ticket Office or your travel agent.

Philippine Airlines
It's about experience
www.philippineairlines.com

NOW OPEN!

LOW PRICES NOW

big R Supercenter DASMARIÑAS!



Guaranteed fresh items at the biggest and most complete Fresh department.

Unique finds and great bargains at our General Merchandise and Apparel sections!

Enjoy freshly baked and home-cooked goodness everyday!

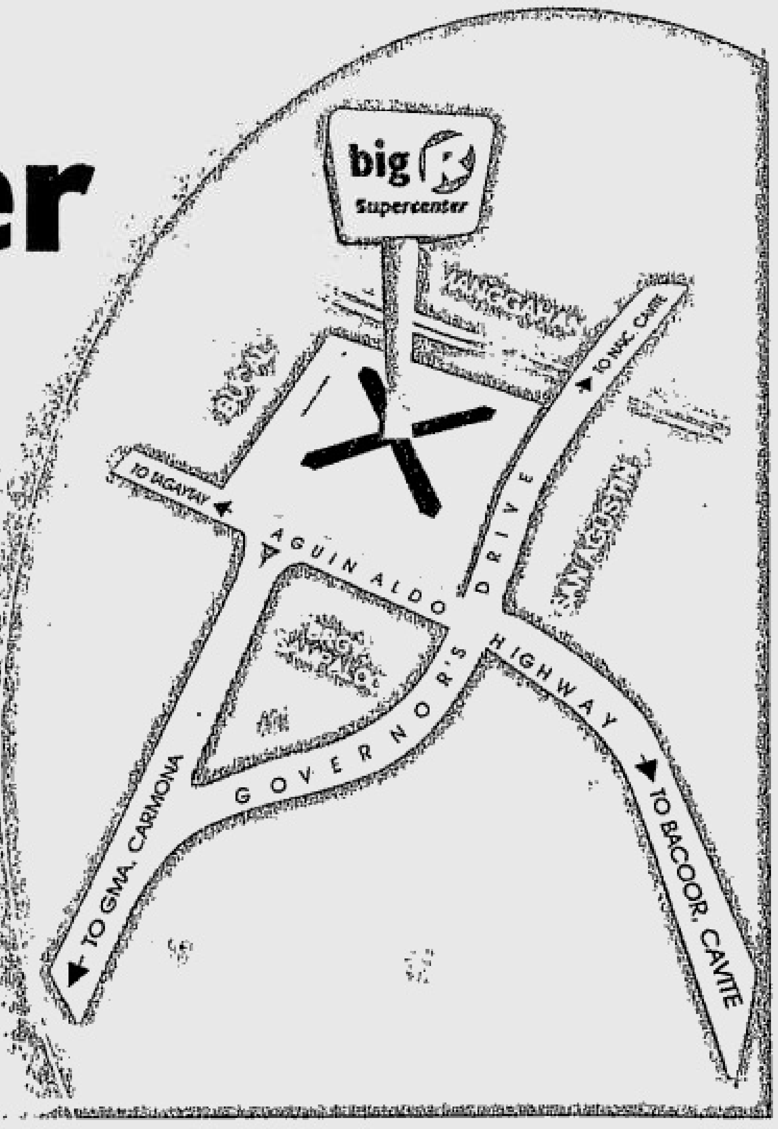
Get big savings at our Grocery and Big Pack sections.

big R Supercenter

NO MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED

OPEN DAILY FROM 7AM - 10PM

Robinsons Place Dasmariñas
Aguinaldo Highway cor. Governor's Drive
Sitio Palapala, Brgy. Sampaloc Dasmariñas, Cavite


big R Supercenter
TO TAGAYTAY
TO NAIC, CAVITE
AGUINALDO HIGHWAY
GOVERNOR'S DRIVE
TO GMA. CARMONA
TO BACOOR, CAVITE

HSA Construction Corporation

NODUZA Engineered Systems Construction Corp.
ASHFORD FORMULA
TRADETEK
Visual Merchandising Center
Linde

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Congress warns US can't stay long in Iraq

WASHINGTON—The United States will not be able to sustain its current occupation force in Iraq without increasing the overall size of the military, ending other overseas commitments or rescinding troop rotation rules, according to a new congressional report slated for release Wednesday.

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) warned that if the current policy of keeping army units in a war zone no longer than one year is preserved, the US Army "would be unable to sustain" its present Iraq contingent "beyond about March 2004."

The report was certain to add fuel to the growing debate in Washington over the Bush administration's readiness to handle post-Saddam Iraq, including the costs of occupation.

Senior US officials said Tuesday the United States would seek a new UN Security Council resolution to expand the United Nations mandate in Iraq, making it easier for more countries to participate in the stabilization force.

The enormous expense—coupled with the estimated four billion dollars a month being spent on the military occupation of Iraq, growing criticism of the operation and a rising death toll among US troops—has created a new urgency in recruiting more countries to join the stabilization effort.

A top secret report obtained by The Washington Times daily said the planning process for rebuilding Iraq and for searching for weapons of mass destruction was flawed, rushed and deficient.

"Planners were not given enough time to put together the best blueprint . . . As a result planning occurred on an ad hoc basis and late in the process," the secret report said.

More than 180,000 US troops are currently deployed in Iraq and neighboring Gulf nations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, the CBO said in its report.

But soldiers hunting down remnants of the Saddam Hussein regime will have to start withdrawing next spring, and the US Army lacks fresh troops to replace them all, the report said.

As a result, the Army will be able to keep in Iraq indefinitely only between 38,000 and 64,000 troops, if it relies exclusively on its active duty soldiers and some reserve units, according to the CBO report, advance copies of which circulated on Capitol Hill late Tuesday.

Maintaining such an occupation force would cost the US taxpayer up to $12 billion a year. *AFP*

New Iraq Cabinet sworn in

BAGHDAD—The men and one woman who will act as ministers until elections are held in Iraq were sworn in Wednesday as the Polish army took military command of a large chunk of south-central Iraq.

The swearing in came as four US soldiers were wounded when their convoy struck an improvised explosive device near Saddam Hussein's home town of Tikrit.

In the ancient city of Babylon, south of Baghdad, US commanders handed over to their Polish counterparts control of one of the zones of the country marked out by the US-led coalition.

Poland, Washington's key ally in Eastern Europe, thus officially became the third country after the United States and Britain to accept responsibility as an occupying force in Iraq.

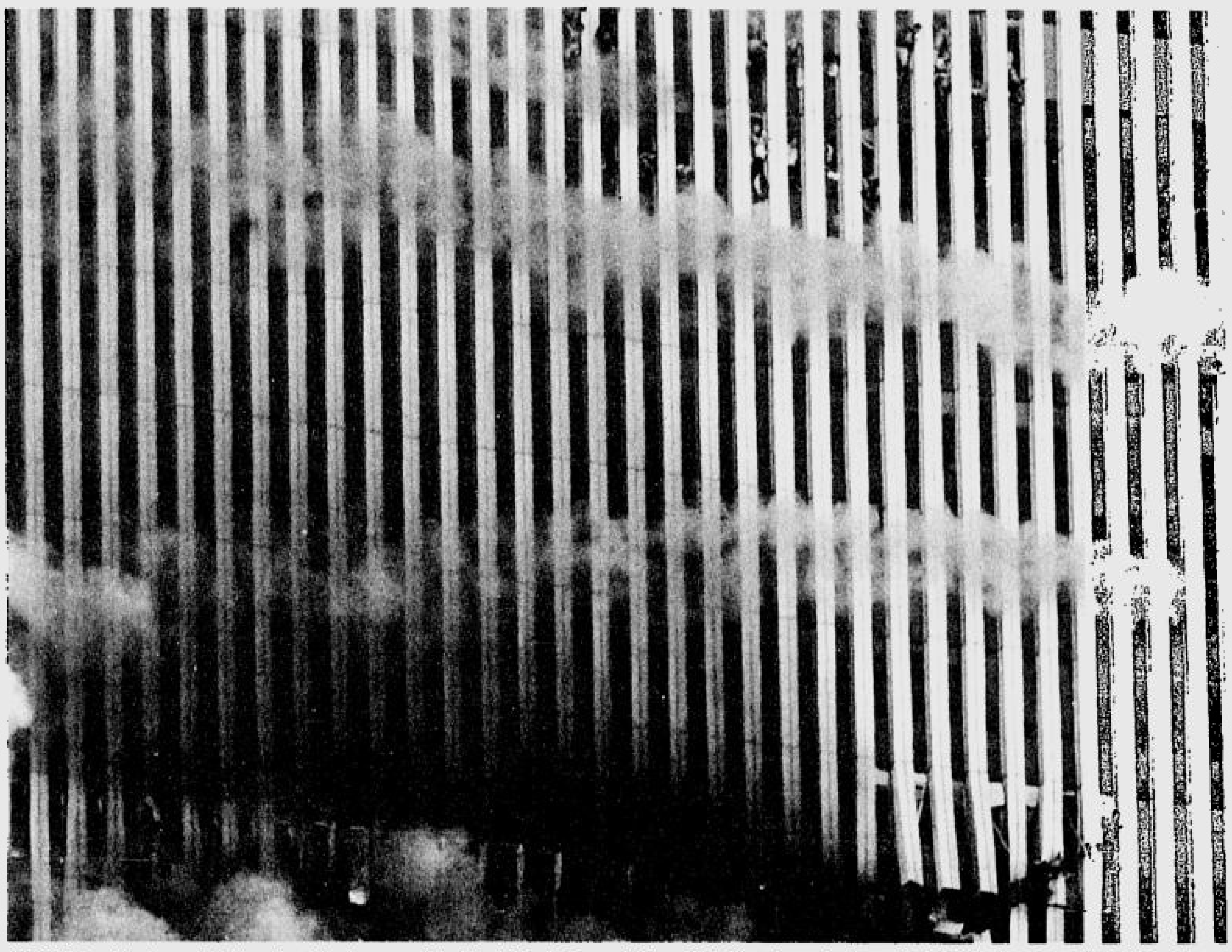
As head of a 21-nation multinational force, Poland assumed command from the US Marine Corps amid pomp and ceremony in the ancient city of Babylon, just outside the city of Hilla, 100 km south of Baghdad.

"The multinational division has become a first, it was founded with the help of our American friends and thanks to the brave decision by 21 countries," said Poland's Maj. Gen. Andrzej Tyszkiewicz.

"Our common focus is to help Iraqi people, and to wipe out the traces of Saddam Hussein's monstrous dictatorship and build a new basis of peaceful existence."

Poland will have control over a region between Baghdad and Basra as commander of a 9,000-man force including elements from Bulgaria, Spain, Ukraine and other countries.

In another ceremony back in Baghdad, where a car bomb went off Tuesday outside a police station killing an Iraqi officer, most of the 25 members of Iraq's first post-Saddam Cabinet were sworn in. *AFP*



PEOPLE (top) look out of the burning North tower of the World Trade Center in New York City, above the jagged hole left by American Flight 11, in this Sept. 11, 2001 file photo. The tower collapsed shortly after this image was taken. This year's anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks in New York and Washington will echo the first one, with silence for the moments the planes struck and when the buildings fell, and the reading of 2,792 victims' names. REUTERS

America an even bigger terrorist target

WASHINGTON—Two years after the worst attack on the United States, the world superpower is aware that it has become an even bigger target for radical groups.

The United States may be better prepared now than it was on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, but instability across the rest of the world has grown.

Threats and expressions of hatred come from the Middle East, Iraq, Afghanistan and now even in southeast Asia following the Bali bombing in October and the blowing up of the J.W. Marriott hotel in Jakarta last month.

The US response to the events in New York and Washington two years ago has antagonized Muslims around the world, many of whom feel they have been unfairly singled out.

"There are probably more threats now in the world than before Sept. 11," insisted Marc Burgess, an expert on terrorism at the Center for Defense Information, a Washington think tank.

Like many colleagues, Burgess believes other attacks could be coming because it takes two years to plan an operation of the scale of the attacks that were carried out on New York and Washington two years ago and killed 3,000 people.

Now US troops are a target in Iraq, where last week's bombing of the Shiite Muslim holy shrine in Najaf rammed home the growing insecurity.

Radical Muslim groups like Hamas operating in the Gaza Strip and West Bank openly call President George W. Bush Islam's No. 1 enemy.

"America is not the only target, but the most visible, the leading one," noted Burgess.

The US-led Iraq war did not receive universal backing at the United Nations, but supporters and foes of the conflict have been attacked in recent months. There have been attacks on Australian, French, German, Indonesian and Israeli targets.

This is why, Burgess added, Americans now are convinced that "the rest of the world is no more a friendly place" and that current circumstances are not less threatening today than before Sept. 11, despite the antiterrorism campaign around the world.

"Al-Qaida doesn't have to travel thousands of miles, to cross the ocean, to attack the US anymore," said Charles Pena, an expert with the Cato Institute, a libertarian group of economic, political and military experts. *AFP*

Bashir jail term seen as lenient

SINGAPORE—The conviction of an Indonesian cleric accused of being the clandestine leader of Islamic terrorists in Southeast Asia was welcomed in the region Wednesday, but his jail term was seen as too lenient.

Some analysts said the four-year prison sentence on Abu Bakar Bashir—minus 10 months spent in custody—could discourage Washington from handing over another alleged Indonesian terrorist leader, Hambali, in the near future.

Australia, which lost 88 citizens in the October 2002 Bali nightclub bombings blamed on the Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) network allegedly led by Bashir, was quick to express its disappointment at the sentence.

Prime Minister John Howard said he was in no position to criticize the Indonesian government and the management of the trial, and was "pleased that the Indonesian justice process appears to have worked."

"On the other hand, because many of us here in Australia believe that he was at least the spiritual leader of JI and therefore at least knew about the attack in Bali, we are disappointed that he wasn't convicted on that and didn't get a longer sentence," he added on national radio.

Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, speaking in Brunei where he was attending an Asia-Pacific economic conference, said it was difficult to say if the verdict "will stop what's happening now" or "might even intensify the efforts of those who support him and those who love him."

"We do not know. But we can only pray and hope that the situation in our region in the context of terrorism will be less and less threatening. This is something that we must be working for, and we are making all efforts to do so," he told journalists.

Daljit Singh, a senior research fellow at Singapore's Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, also had mixed feelings about the trial's outcome. *AFP*

WORLDBRIEFS

Arafat: US Mideast plan dead

JERUSALEM—Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat on Wednesday was quoted as saying that the US-backed "road map" for Middle East peace was dead and that Israel was to blame. The plan, launched June 4, calls on Israel and the Palestinian Authority to end nearly three years of violence and envisions the establishment of a Palestinian state by 2005. The plan has been stalled for several weeks because of renewed fighting and a deadlock between Israel and the Palestinians on the dismantling of armed groups. Israel has accused Arafat of getting in the way of the road map and trying to undermine his prime minister, the US-backed Mahmoud Abbas, at every turn. *AP*

5 dead in Russia train blast

ROSTOV-ON-DON, Russia—At least five people died and another 30 were wounded when bombs rocked a commuter train in southern Russia, killing at least five people, officials said. Dmitry Oliferenko, a spokesperson for President Vladimir Putin's envoy to southern Russia, said that five people died when two bombs exploded at both ends of the second car of the train on route from Kislovodsk to Mineralnye Vody in the Caucasus region. Another 15 people were hospitalized with wounds. Russia has been rocked by continuous bomb explosions recently and other attacks which the government usually has blamed on the Chechen rebels. *AP*

Typhoon kills 20 in south China

HONG KONG—Strong winds and torrential rains killed at least 20 people and injured about 100 as a typhoon ground into south China, officials and state media said on Wednesday. The powerful but rapidly weakening storm dumped heavy rain on parts of Guangdong province after lashing neighboring Hong Kong with shrieking gale force winds, injuring 22 people in the former British colony. *Reuters*

Nokor assembly backs nuke buildup

SEOUL—North Korea's rubber-stamp parliament on Wednesday approved the communist government's decision to increase "nuclear deterrent force" in angry reaction to what it calls a hostile US policy. The North's Supreme People's Assembly also "considered as just" the North Korean foreign ministry announcement last week that North Korea no longer had "interest or expectations" for future talks on its nuclear program, said the North's official news agency KCNA. *AP*

Worker survives 45-cm drill through head

TRUCKEE, California—Ron Hunt's friends and family have been calling him the "Miracle Man" ever since an 45-cm-long drill bit poked through his eye and out the back of his skull.

"It didn't seem possible for him to be alive, seeing him with a drill bit through his head," his nephew Ben Hunt said.

The construction worker from Truckee lost an eye but survived the freak accident Aug..15 with no brain damage after falling from a ladder and onto the drill.

The 3.8-cm diameter chip auger drill bit was still in his head when his brother, Chris Hunt, and nephew, Ben, met him in a hospital emergency room in Reno, Nevada.

Doctors explained that the drill bit pushed his brain aside rather than pushing into it, which likely would have caused serious brain damage or death, Ben Hunt said.

While drilling above his head on Aug. 15, the two-meter ladder Ron Hunt was standing on started to wobble so he tossed the drill aside—as construction workers are trained to do. He then fell off the ladder face first and onto the drill.

"By the time I was falling, and I let the drill go down, I was already on top of it," Ron Hunt told ABC's "Good Morning America" TV show on Tuesday.

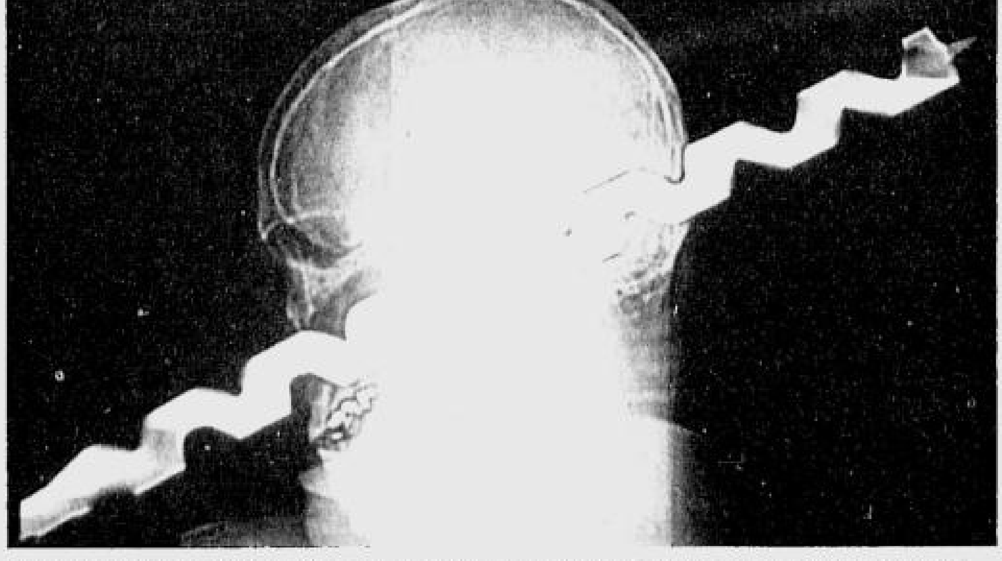
"I ran my hands up the drill bit, up to my eye, and put my other hand in the back of my head and felt it coming through the back of my head," he said. "And that's where pretty much the shock set in."

He was taken by helicopter to Washoe Medical Center in Reno. After weighing their options, doctors essentially unscrewed the bit to remove it.

"We would have cut it off, but after a few minutes of drilling, we noticed that it was loose. And so we just put down our blade and twisted the bit," said Dr. Paul Ludlow, the surgeon who performed the operation.

His nephew thinks he'll be able to laugh about it some day.

"It's just going to be one of those stories," Ben Hunt told the Sierra Sun. "He'll joke around with his glass eye and pop it out." *AP*



THE X-RAY of Ron Hunt's skull shows an 45-inch-long drill bit that pierced Hunt's eye socket and went through his head, just nudging his brain. Hunt (top photo), a Truckee, Calif., construction worker, fell off a ladder on Aug. 15, and landed on the drill he was using at a construction site. AP

Across the NATION

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph
Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9256
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
23 Aurora St., Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: pdivis@skyinet.net

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: pdiminda@dv.webling.com

BAGUIO DAY

PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

Members of urban poor groups take the tail-end of a Baguio Day parade to air their protests against demolitions in the city.

Justice, reforms focus of changes gov't plans in military, says GMA

By Anselmo Roque
PDI Central Luzon Desk

PALAYAN CITY—President Macapagal-Arroyo said the proposed measures that her administration will institute in the Armed Forces of the Philippines will be based on the "combined force of justice and reform."

The President, who was guest during the 107th Nueva Ecija Day celebration on Tuesday, also promised to support the peace process to unify the country.

"I am to create an irreversible momentum of reforms to promote snappy performance, move logistics in the field, and reward courage and sacrifice," Ms Macapagal said.

She said the three-week old hearings by the Feliciano Commission on the failed July 27 mutiny had already shed light on the root causes of provocations in the AFP.

These findings would reinforce the consolidated measures that her government planned to implement in the AFP soon, she said.

Ms Macapagal also assured that her government is prioritizing its anti-poverty campaign.

"We must lend greater momentum to the speedy return of confidence in our political and economic stability," she said.

She also urged the 12,000 *bantay bayan* (village guards), who were presented during the program by Nueva Ecija Gov. Tomas Joson III, to do their share in defending the country.

She told them that if there are groups causing destabilization, everybody is affected.

These village guards were trained on crime investigation and solution, intelligence gathering, and the protection of the rights of the people, said Joson.

Cops see more kidnaps as polls near

COTABATO CITY—The death toll in a foiled kidnapping in Tacurong City on Monday increased to 10 as military and police officials said they expected more kidnappings to take place as the elections draw near.

One of the wounded civilians in the Tacurong City kidnapping died while law enforcers killed four suspected kidnappers.

Four of the 10 Pentagon kidnap-for-ransom gang members that attacked the Ang Luk rice mill in Barangay New Carmen, Tacurong City were killed during the pursuit operations, according to Brig. Gen. Agustin Demaala, 301st Infantry Brigade commander.

Chief Insp. Raul Supiter, Tacurong City police chief, said two of the suspects died in transit while evading lawmen Monday afternoon.

"They were among those who fired rocket propelled grenades and entered the rice mill office of Roberto Ang," Supiter said, adding that the group was joined by members of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

Two other suspects died in a fierce firefight with government troopers.

Demaala said the group that pulled off the kidnapping attempt belonged to Tahir Alonto and Mayangcang Saguile, two kidnap leaders operating in Central Mindanao.

"We expect kidnapping cases to rise because elections are fast approaching," Supiter said, adding that many traders have been receiving kidnapping threats and extortion letters in Tacurong City, a bustling agricultural city in Sultan Kudarat province.

Three hours after the 10:45 a.m. attack, Peter Hong, a relative of Roberto Ang and listed as among those wounded, died while being treated at a hospital.

Ang, owner of Ang Luk rice mill, is now out of danger but other wounded victims remain in critical condition, according to Supiter.

Demaala said a bigger group, believed to be MILF rebels, served as a blocking force against lawmen in Barangay Pimbalayan, Lambayong, Sultan Kudarat.

"We engaged them in a running gunbattle late Monday afternoon, we believe they suffered heavy casualties," Demaala said.

The Pentagon kidnap-for-ransom gang, founded by Alonto and Faizal Marohombsar in 1999, is composed of former Moro rebels turned bandits. It gained notoriety in 2000 when it snatched five Chinese engineers working for government irrigation dam in North Cotabato.

Two of their captives were killed during botched military rescue operations in Sultan Kudarat. Others were freed in exchange for millions of pesos of ransom.

Edwin Fernandez and Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau

5 tourists kidnapped in Surigao

BUTUAN CITY—More than a week after five local tourists were reportedly kidnapped in Surigao City, the armed group holding them has yet to issue a demand for their release.

But even if they made a demand, Chief Supt. Alberto Olario, police chief for the Caraga Region, maintained that the government would adhere to its no-ransom policy.

Olario said a local bandit group could be behind the kidnapping.

On Aug. 22, reports said that soon after the victims disembarked in Lipata Port aboard a barge from Leyte, five heavily armed men kidnapped the victims as they were riding a van bound for Davao City.

Most of the victims, two male engineers and three women, came from Manila.

But authorities learned of the incident only on Aug. 26 from one of the victims, who was freed by the bandits.

Police identified her as Josephine Valenzuela, 26, a resident of Mandaluyong City.

Olario said Valenzuela told him that she was released in the mountainous areas bordering Jabonga town in Agusan del Norte and Malimono town in Surigao del Norte after she pleaded because she is pregnant.

Olario said they were following leads on Valenzuela's account and have already ordered the deployment of police and army troops to go after the kidnappers.

But a skeptical Surigao City Mayor Alfonso Cassura raised concern about the inconsistency of Valenzuela's accounts.

"There are many inconsistencies in her account, we are troubled about her report," he told a local radio program. Cassura hinted that there could have been no kidnapping at all. *Franklin Caliguid, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Negros Oriental board allows gov to sign ₱80-M loan deal with bank

DUMAGUETE CITY—The Negros Oriental provincial board has authorized Gov. George Arnaiz to enter into a contract with the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) for an P80-million loan for the purchase of heavy equipment and for a counterpart fund for an educational program.

Provincial Board Member Lorenzo Dy, chair of the committee on appropriations, said P50 million of the amount will be set aside for the purchase of heavy equipment, while P30 million will be for counterpart for the Third Elementary Education Program (TEEP) and the Secondary Education Program (SEDEP).

Arnaiz said that under the TEEP, the World Bank (WB) set aside some P150 million for the construction and repair of classrooms, but the provincial government is required to put up a 10-percent counterpart.

Under the SEDEP, the WB has allocated some P60 million but required the provincial government to put up a 25 percent counterpart. The loan is payable in seven years, the governor said.

Arnaiz added the provincial government would also need to buy heavy equipment for the implementation of infrastructure projects especially in the hinterland areas.

He said the province would buy brand new graders and road rollers and second-hand dump trucks, backhoe, well loader, water trucks, among others, from the P50 million loan.

Having its own heavy equipment would be beneficial to the provincial government because it would save the province a lot of money if the projects would be implemented by the local administration, or by the provincial engineering office.

Also, the province would be able to ensure the quality of the work and delays in the project implementation would be minimized. *Romy Amarado, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Groups press for RP withdrawal from WTO

SORSOGON CITY—Farmers and women's groups from Albay and Sorsogon are urging the government to totally withdraw from the World Trade Organization and the 5th WTO Ministerial Conference in Cancun City, Mexico on Sept. 10-14.

In separate forums on Monday and Tuesday, about 1000 ralliers also asked for an increase in subsidy and support for agriculture as well as set limits on rice importation.

Eduardo Mora, Sandigan at Ugnayan ng Magbubukid sa Pilipinas (Sumapi) chair, said other farmers groups belonging to the Stop the New Round Coalition are launching a peasant protest caravan that will start in Legazpi City in the south and in Santiago City in Isabela in the north and will converge in Metro Manila on Sept. 12-13.

"In the nine years under the WTO trading regime, more and more Filipino farmers are finding themselves bankrupt because of the dumping of cheap agricultural products from abroad," Mora said.

One of the focus of the WTO Cancun negotiation is to push further liberalization of agriculture, but there is still no agreed draft for the negotiation. Even the proposed draft prepared by the US and the European Union failed to attract most members, according to Francisco Pascual, Resource Center for People Development chair.

"The US and EU agreed to protect their own agriculture while continuing to press on the underdeveloped countries of the south to further open up their markets to agricultural exports of the north," Pascual said.

With only a week remaining before the WTO Cancun meeting, Pascual predicted that no agreement on agriculture would be finalized while the current agreement that took effect in 1995 expires next year.

He said the WTO director general already floated the idea of another ministerial meeting in March, in anticipation of Cancun meeting's failure.

The country's negotiating panel headed by Trade Secretary Mar Roxas has been hit by civil society groups for the non-disclosure of its negotiating position.

Provincial board member Bong Jao, committee on agriculture chair, said the country's delegates to the Cancun meeting should think of the poor and how they could help them. "Cancun will surely be a 'kangkungan' for us if we don't fight," according to Nepo Malaloan of the Stop the New Round Coalition. *Emir Gamis, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

GSIS office in Cotabato bombed

COTABATO CITY—A grenade blast ripped off the main entrance of the Government Service Insurance System office here on Tuesday night while some employees were having an overtime work.

GSIS Cotabato Manager Mamole Pangandaman said nobody was hurt in the grenade attack, the second this year, after the indefinite suspension of the grant of loans to GSIS members due to the computer programming problem that began in July.

"Some disgruntled GSIS members could be behind the attack, but we don't discount other possibilities," Pangandaman said.

She explained that putting on hold all loan processing activities was beyond the GSIS Cotabato's control, saying that all it could do was to follow up its central office about it.

Police said the blast shattered glass doors and jalousies, and caused minor damages to some office equipment.

The first grenade explosion in August did no harm and destruction as it hit a vacant pavement of the GSIS Compound.

"We've been receiving all kinds of threats (so) I requested for police protection and asked the guards to strengthen security measures," Pangandaman said. *Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Scientists oppose lifting of ban on Taiwan shrimp

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Several scientists have opposed the campaign to lift the ban on the exotic white shrimp *Litopenaeus vannamei* out of concern for the survival of the local shrimp industry and the coastal environment, the Oplan Sagip Sugpo said.

The group, comprised mostly of government experts seeking the protection and promotion of the local *sugpo* (Penaeus monodon) or black tiger prawn, has endorsed the letters of the scientists to Agriculture Secretary Luis Lorenzo and Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) Director Malcolm Sarmiento.

The letters came amid what the group called "considerable lobby from some quarters of the shrimp industry" for the BFAR to relax the implementation of Fisheries Administrative Order 207.

The order, issued in 2001, outlaws the import and culture of exotic shrimps at any stage except for scientific purposes.

Proponents of the entry of *vannamei* in the Philippines cited its fast growing quality and its supposed resistance to diseases.

Despite the vigilance of BFAR, an initial study by Dr. Wilfredo Yap for the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization showed that some 700 hectares of brackish water aqua farms in Bataan, Pampanga, Zambales and Quezon had been stocked with *vannamei* imported from Taiwan.

Taiwan's aquaculture industry detected the Taura Syndrome Virus (TSV) shortly after introducing the species in 1999. TSV was also recently confirmed in Indonesia. The same virus also contributed to the collapse of the shrimp industry in the United States since 1987, reports said.

Dr. Rolando Platon, chief of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center aquaculture department (SEAFDEC AQD), said there was a "collective consensus" in his department to the "widely held position among the scientific community both here and abroad that the entry of exotic species to a country . . . carries with it risks which cannot be ascertained until it is too late."

"(We) believe that our own *sugpo* is a superior species and the Philippines has not yet fully realized the full production potential of the *sugpo*," Platon said.

The White Spot Syndrome Virus (WSSV) had caused *sugpo* production to decline to 41,000 metric tons (MT) in 2001 from 94,000 MT in 1994.

"We have to be mindful of the possible effect of imported species on our local biodiversity," Platon said.

Dr. Jose Paolo Magbanua and Dr. Veronica Migo of the National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology said the TSV "is still considered a menace" in South and North America and in Taiwan.

Dr. Lourdes Tapay, a fellow of the University of Cambridge, said there was need to protect the "fragile" shrimp industry. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Countdown for Justice

WAPILE

IT is exactly 479 days today since Pagadian journalist Edgar Damalerio was slain in cold blood. The principal suspect, police officer Guillermo Wapile, remains at large after escaping while in the custody of the police.

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph

INQUIRER *Southern Luzon*

Editor **Jun Bandayrel**
Bureau Chief **Floreño G. Solmirano**

Quezon park emerges from the dark

By Delfin T. Mallari Jr.
Lucena City

SEVERAL summers ago, when dusk would set in, no promenader would dare stroll in the seven-hectare Perez Park in front of the Quezon capitol in Lucena City.

With a few lights that hardly illuminated the area, coupled with the habitual presence of undesirable elements, the promenade site then was not a refuge for tired and weary souls who wanted an evening jog, or simply counted the stars and felt the soothing blow of gentle wind.

Even the marble walls of the stately bronze monument of President Manuel L. Quezon on the farthest block of the four-square sunken park were not spared the obnoxious graffiti of vandals. The monument was also a mute witness to the obscenity and scandals involving some habitues.

Members of the park security force described the times as "those dark days of Perez Park," when it was dangerous even for them to conduct patrols lest they were caught in the middle of a teenage gang war.

Only the physical fitness buffs from the Lucena Aero-Joggers Club frequented the park every morning. They also held aerobic exercises on the concrete ground just below the monument.

Except for weekend strollers, the place was often empty.

Transformation

Three years ago, the park began shedding off its hostile name "Perez Dark," coined by local media, when the provincial government under Gov. Wilfrido Enverga launched efforts to transform the site to a wholesome family place through the creation of the Perez Park Restoration and Beautification 2000 Committee.

Enverga said the rehabilitation and restoration project arose from the collective aspirations of the provincial government, civic organizations, private companies and local government agencies.

"Perea Park is a unique and important part of the province's cultural heritage. The provincial government is committed to its full rehabilitation," he said.

Since then, the park maintenance team has regularly replaced busted lights and has kept the gardens and the beautiful landscape well maintained. Roving security personnel, equipped with communications gadgets, now conduct round-the-clock patrol around the perimeter to ensure the safety of visitors, especially at night.

EARLY morning joggers around the Quezon Monument in Lucena City's Perez Park.

DELFIN MALLARI JR.

Park photographers started to appear the whole week, indicating brisk business.

Several pairs of Italian-made floodlights illuminate the Quezon monument and the facade of the provincial capitol building, creating an imposing edifice at night.

The multicolored jet-fountain put up during the administration of Gov. Anacleto Alcala adds to the glitter of the park atmosphere.

"The place now has a more secure atmosphere than before. There's no more fear for morning joggers, even when we arrive early for our exercise," said Amaury Polintan Jr., head of the city engineer's office. Polintan and his friends regularly exercise around the monument, following the beat of music blaring from the centralized sound system.

Donation

Former Quezon Gov. Felimon Perez donated the park site way back in the early '20s.

According to historical accounts of former Quezon Assemblyman Cesar Villariba in his book, "Definitive History of Lucena," the park was designed by engineers Sergio Bayan and Jose Capinpin. It was inaugurated a year later with a colorful grand parade with Quezon, then Senate president, as guest of honor.

The site of the provincial capitol building and other government structures are all part of Perez's donated property, explained Arnel Avila, the governor's community relations officer. The three-story capitol building at the rear of the park was first built in 1908.

The province's old name, Tayabas, was changed to Quezon following the enactment of Republic Act No.14 on Sept. 7, 1946.

Avila said the Perez Park was initially sectioned into three blocks. The fourth block was added as site of the towering Quezon Monument in honor of the first president of the Philippine Commonwealth and the "Father of the National Language."

The bronze edifice is touted as the tallest Quezon Monument in the country. It was erected in the early '50s during the time of Gov. Vicente Constantino and was designed by architect Felipe Mendoza. On Aug. 19, 1953, then President Ramon Magsaysay inaugurated the memorial.

Glory days

The spacious sunken garden, now shaded with thick *ipil-ipil* foliage, was once considered among the biggest and most beautiful parks in the country.

At the center of the second block is a stone map of the province, made up of boulders piled one on top of the other, each representing a municipality. An embossed glass bears the total land area and population at the time it was constructed.

The first block also has a children's playground and a man-made cave that also doubles as bandstand and chess center, among other purposes.

On the third block, a huge flagpole stands in the middle of a lagoon that teems with various species of ornamental fish. A concrete coconut marker serves as a testimonial landmark of Quezon as a coconut-producing province.

Some corners have their own share of "amusing anecdotes" that would refresh many childhood memories of the natives.

During those times when bottled water was still unthinkable, drinking from the elevated fountain on one side of the stone map was a frightening experience for children. Chilling tales have it that if a child falls into the mini-pond below the fountain, he or she would never resurface and forever remain in the company of mermaids that dwell in the place.

Also in the '60s, no youngsters would dare pick flowers or fruits from any of the *mabolo* trees that surrounded the park or else invite the wrath of pot-bellied "Kumander Gudlak," so-called for his being the former menacing chieftain of the Hukbalahap in Quezon. The character was designated by then Gov. Anacleto Alcala to head the park security force.

In order to sustain the momentum of park rehabilitation, Enverga said the provincial government has launched a contest to design the comprehensive park beautification plan.

More structures

Last year, no less than President Macapagal-Arroyo led the inauguration of the Quezon Convention Center, a covered multipurpose center that boasts of a 7,500-seating capacity. It is now considered a regular venue of Philippine Basketball Association games outside Metro Manila.

The facility used to be the open-air Leon Guinto Memorial Amphitheater at the back of the provincial capitol, then the favorite venue of annual balls of the local ritzy set.

The office of the provincial governor has its own share of refurbished look with the construction of a new building at the old site, plus a duplicate concrete structure on the other side of the block that serves as the annex building. At night, the twin buildings bask under the glare of floodlights.

On the second floor of an old concrete building in the middle of the new provincial governor's office lies the Gintong Yaman Ng Quezon Museum, which serves as a repository of a wide collection of artifacts and memorabilia of the former president.

Under construction at the back of the new provincial executive building is the finance center of the provincial government.

Enverga said the adjacent provincial jail would be moved elsewhere to complete the symmetry of the whole capitol complex.

Rehabilitation work has also been undertaken at the provincial mansion building across the street in front of the Quezon Monument.

A newly built butterfly garden that houses the wide collection of different species of the insect is found at the back of the stately government mansion.

Mangyan folk proud of their first and only lawyer

By Madonna T. Virola, *Calapan City*

GIVEN the same opportunity as that to a lowland Filipino, the Mangyan, who are often seen as uneducated and extremely poor, can also be a success story.

Renato Zosimo "Zosing" Evangelista has proved this. "God gave me good people around to help me reach my goals in life," said the 29-year-old lawyer.

Losing his mother at 14, he found the breaks he needed to succeed in the big city of Manila. After doing what seemed impossible among his people, he is happy to be treated an equal by other lawyers who graduated from leading universities, such as the Ateneo de Manila, University of the Philippines and San Beda College.

Evangelista's name is now etched on the board of a law firm, the Roco, Kapunan, Migallos, Perez and Luna Law Offices, side by side with some of the country's most sought-after lawyers. He walks with confidence, determination and a sense of purpose in a suit along the corridors of the 16th floor of the Strata 2000, overlooking other prestigious buildings on Ortigas Avenue in Pasig City. He is greeted with regard by colleagues in the legal practice and staff members in the office.

But Evangelista has an ultimate goal: To go back to Oriental Mindoro to serve his fellow Mangyan. "I am just getting some experience here and I need to save to be able to put up my own law office there." he said.

The new lawyer won't ever forget his childhood days.

"My mother was the first Mangyan who performed a piano recital through the help of Casimira Villegas (then managing the Mount Tabor Mangyan Formation Center in Barangay Calero in Calapan City) who had a great tandem with then Bishop William Duschak (a German priest)," reminisced Evangelista.

His mother, Juana Bilog, had a talent for music that impressed many people, including those attending Mass in church. She would accompany the Mangyan choir on Sundays in the cathedral. She had undergone intensive piano training under the Holy Spirit Sisters in Calapan.

She soon fell in love with a *sacristan mayor* [head of the altar boys] in the parish.

After his mother, who was then in third year of a bachelor's degree course in education, gave birth at the age of 18, "my father left and was never seen again," Evangelista said. "I never met my father. My mother loved him so dearly. In fact, I was named after him."

Confused and heartbroken, her mother followed the advice of Villegas to direct her attention to her studies, at least for the sake of her child. She was to trust in God's design for her life.

Mangyan origin

Evangelista was taken by his Hanunuo Mangyan grandparents, Kudong and Handa, to their home in Bulalacao town in the southernmost part of Oriental Mindoro. His grandparents, who had 13 children, reared him in Tignuan, Mansalay.

The patience and discipline instilled in him by his grandmother eventually paid off, Evangelista said.

He was reunited with his mother when he was 7. He was then attending primary schooling at the Holy Infant Academy.

In Grade 3, Evangelista took piano lessons upon the encouragement of Villegas. He would practice from 5:30 a.m. to 7 a.m. everyday. "You can become what you want," Villegas had told him.

His mother later got married and had seven children. She taught in the newly opened high school for the Hanunuo Mangyan called the Mangyan Educational Center (MEC), in the mountain village of Bait in Mansalay. It was there where Evangelista pursued his high school education.

IT was Renato Zosimo Evangelista's grandparents, Kudong and Handa, now in their 70s and first-timers in Manila, who attended his law graduation.

MADONNA VIROLA

But hard work affected his mother's health. She contracted broncho-pneumonia and died. He was then 14 years old.

Again, Evangelista was left to the care of his grandparents and half-siblings.

To earn money for his transportation fare to school, he would carry down mountain products, such as bananas, over some 10 km. He would get P10 for a hundred pieces of *saba* [a banana variety], regardless of weight and distance. "That's why I never grew tall," he joked. He is 5 foot 3 inches tall.

When he had no money, he would walk through Panaytayan, Bait in Mansalay for three to four hours (1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sundays) to go to school.

To enjoy free board and lodging, he served as housekeeper to an aunt, a social worker, who lived with her family in a house near his school.

Evangelista was among some 20 students who graduated from the MEC with the help of a German missionary, Fr. Ewald Dinter. Despite the difficulties, he consistently topped his classes in high school.

He went on to the Divine Word College in Calapan during the first two years in college, taking up a bachelor's degree major in English. Feeling that he could not get the breaks he needed and he believed he deserved in school, he went to Manila.

A neighbor of his in Mount Tabor enabled him to get contacts in Holland. Joop Wielenga, a principal for delinquents in Holland, had a study fund under the Filipino-Dutch Foundation [Studofond Filipino Kinderen], which he headed.

On his third year, he transferred to the Manuel Luis Quezon University and pursued his AB English course, with minor in political science and journalism [he also wanted to be a writer].

His tuition was shouldered by the foundation. For extra allowance, he taught piano to 3-4 students and earned P500 per month. Each student took four hour-long sessions every month.

The student found greater challenges in Manila, different from the experiences of a Mangyan being ostracized in Mindoro. "It hurts, but what can I do?" he asked.

So, he focused his energies on uplifting the Mangyan by performing well in school. He said though that he would not think he was better than others. "I just tested myself."

Soon, he earned the trust of his teachers and schoolmates. He was consistently on top of his class and he was among the cream of the crop. He was elected president of the English and Journalism classes, was a member of the student council and wrote for the Quezonian.

On graduation day, he chose not to march. He had thought that graduating with an AB English degree was not something to celebrate for.

Law school

He went on to pursue law studies in the MLQU Law School, landing on the dean's list.

"In Manila, people don't care unless you're Visayan in accent. They don't know much about the Mangyan, like how we look in appearance. I got my biggest break in the law school. My study habits were polished and I was already a full-time student, president of a fraternity, governor of the law student council and was organizing programs for the college," he said.

Marching this time during the commencement exercises, he graduated with an academic award for excellence in legal education for being the best in commercial law.

Evangelista would come home to Mindoro four times a year and stay there longer during vacation. He would volunteer his knowledge and time to the causes of the Mangyan. He actively campaigned against nickel mining in Victoria town since his people were the most vulnerable to spilling, tailings and other harmful effects.

He also helped organize the Mangyan Heritage Center and the Kapulungan para sa Lupaing Ninuno, a province-wide organization of Mangyan tribes.

After passing the bar, he worked as a legal counsel for Nokia in Makati City for a year.

Roco's office

One day, to his surprise, he received a call from the firm of former Sen. Raul Roco. The major partners interviewed him and Roco said, "Let's give this guy, the first Mangyan lawyer, a chance."

Evangelista was very happy being assigned cases of different types [land, criminal, etc.] for litigation. So far, he is satisfied with his performance in all the 37 cases he has handled.

In the firm, he likes the work culture that brings out the best in everyone. The attitude is "just finish the work" and it doesn't matter whether it's a workday.

He aims to pursue international studies in environment and sustainable development which, he says, "matter most in the future."

Right where he is, he is happy not only because he has proven the worth of a Mangyan but also because the people in his community in Mindoro, including relatives in Barangay Kilapnit in the mountain, are proud of him and would usually seek his advice in community matters.

As he further pursues his dream for himself and his fellow Mangyan, "I just want to be known as a person with a cause. It feels good."

Lawmaker says Jose Pidal exposé at dead-end

By Carlito Pablo

THE JOSE Pidal exposé of Sen. Panfilo Lacson has reached a dead-end.

Deputy Speaker Raul Gonzalez made this assessment a day after the first Senate hearing on Lacson's charges against First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo whom the senator accused of having amassed at least P270 million in bank accounts bearing the name Jose Pidal.

Rep. Prospero Nograles (Lakas, Davao City) described the outcome of the Senate hearing as a "flop" for Lacson.

"It was all sound and fury so far signifying nothing," Nograles said, borrowing that famous line from a Shakespeare play.

Gonzalez, a former Tanodbayan or chief graft buster, was one of the lead counsels in the 11-member panel that prosecuted then impeached President Joseph Estrada, said to be the owner of the controversial Jose Velarde bank account.

"The Senate, sitting as an inquiry body, cannot compel the banks having these Jose Pidal accounts to produce banking records," Gonzalez said. "It is not constituted as an impeachment court like in the Estrada trial and an impeachment court can subpoena these records."

Gonzalez said this situation had left Lacson holding an empty bag after his supposed star witness Eugenio "Udong" Mahusay Jr. recanted his sworn statement claiming that Arroyo and Pidal were one and the same person.

Gonzalez also noted that Arroyo's younger brother Ignacio "Iggy" Arroyo had likewise stepped forward to claim ownership of the Pidal accounts.

"Lacson's charges therefore will just be left hanging there," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez also noted that aside from the Senate sitting as an impeachment body, only the courts can order the opening of bank records.

"Lacson has refused to call the First Gentleman's demand for him to file charges in court," he said.

Gonzalez, however, conceded that the Pidal issue remained a battering ram of the opposition in media against the First Couple.

"The Jose Pidal story will rise and fall depending on how media treat the story," he said. "If the media want to keep it big, then that's up to media."

Speaker Jose de Venecia appealed to Lacson to "stop grandstanding and politicking."

De Venecia said that "it is time for Lacson to present his evidence," noting that the senator's attacks against the First Couple have been "too personal."

"The ball is now with Senator Lacson," the Speaker said.

Angara: Too late ...

From page A1

to lead the way in easing the tension the nation is experiencing."

The administration has started to set into motion the holding of a political summit between the administration and opposition.

After a meeting yesterday with Speaker Jose de Venecia and Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo, Senate President Franklin Drilon said the three of them decided to form a working committee with representatives from the opposition. It will meet as soon as possible to come up with a common agenda.

Drilon said he asked Minority Leader Vicente Sotto III to include himself and name other opposition members to the working committee that would draft the common agenda of both the administration and opposition.

He said the committee would set the date of the political summit, which he said would help "defuse the current political tension that is having adverse consequences upon our economy, our civil and political purposes."

Ousted President Estrada predicted that nothing much would come out of the political summit.

"It's nothing. It will just put them in a bind," Estrada said of the summit. "What are they going to talk about? Nothing."

Like the summits in the past, the new one would not provide concrete solutions to the problems in governance.

"There had been political summits, yet the political situation remains unstable; there had been economic summits, yet the value of the peso against the dollar continues to fall; and there has been drug and gambling summits, yet the problems of drug and illegal gambling continue to worsen," he said in Filipino in a telephone interview.

Mike A's brother accepts Ping's challenge

By Alcuin Papa

IGNACIO Arroyo upped the ante in his high stakes game with Sen. Panfilo Lacson.

The younger brother of First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo said yesterday that he was writing the banks enumerated by Lacson in his privileged speech last Monday "for them to confirm whether or not these new accounts actually exist."

He said he did not have anything to do with the "litany of bank accounts and financial transactions" enumerated by Lacson. "In fact, given the senator's track record in making false and malicious claims against the innocent, I strongly doubt that these exist."

Ignacio said he had been informed by Senate President Franklin Drilon that "the special power of attorney that I submitted to him would be inadequate to access whatever funds there are in the bank accounts Mr. Lacson has alleged to exist."

"I would like to assure the Senate President that I will cooperate with his office and submit a modified document so that the funds in these accounts—if they do exist—can be turned over to the Senate employees," he said.

Ignacio's lawyer said he was willing to change the SPA giving the Senate the authority to withdraw any money from bank accounts under the name 'Jose Pidal.'"

"We have been informed that the SPA is not acceptable, according to the senators. We are willing to amend it and submit it anew when my client appears before the Senate hearings," Antonio Zulueta told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

Arroyo and Zulueta submitted an SPA in response to Lacson's allegation that the First Gentleman used the 'Jose Pidal" accounts to launder money.

Last Monday, Ignacio said he was taking up Lacson's challenge to open the accounts and to donate whatever money found there to the employees of the Senate.

But if no money was found in the accounts, Ignacio dared Lacson to donate to Senate employees the P260 million, which the senator claimed was the total amount in the accounts.

However, Drilon said the SPA could not be used since it "did not contain the signature of 'Jose Pidal' in whose name the accounts appear."

The Senate President said that for the document to be binding upon him and the banks, it should be signed by Jose Pidal himself and should provide all details of the bank accounts.

In his four-page SPA, Ignacio identified himself as Jose Pidal and "appointed and constituted" Drilon "as my true and lawful attorney-in-fact to withdraw ... all monies now deposited in any and all the bank accounts."

Zulueta said that while he and his client had not received any formal summons to appear before the Senate, they were ready to attend the Senate hearings investigating the allegations of Lacson.

"We heard Senator (Joker) Arroyo said yesterday that they would issue a subpoena for us to appear. And we shall do so."

Drilon urges Lacson to produce bank documents

From page A1

on the alleged Arroyo accounts in separate affidavits that they had executed.

The affidavits were submitted the other day to the Senate committees on public accountability, constitutional amendments and banks investigating Lacson's allegations against Arroyo.

"The Senate cannot compel the banks because of the Bank Secrecy Law and the Anti-Money Laundering Act also requires court intervention," Drilon said. "Therefore the committees, under the law, cannot compel the production of these bank records."

Original documents

Drilon said that "in fairness to the committee," Lacson should produce the original documents because the opposition senator was the one who presented them.

Asked whether Lacson could be charged with violating the Bank Secrecy Law if he produced the original documents, Drilon said: "When (Lacson) produced these xerox copies, we assume that he has the original, and we assume that he knew that at a certain point, he would have to produce the originals."

Drilon stressed the need for the original documents, especially the original checks because at the back of these checks, one could see the account number where the check had been deposited. These checks could also be used to determine their signatories.

He said that during Lacson's PowerPoint presentation of his evidence against Arroyo, the back of these checks were not shown.

Drilon said the Senate had no power to compel or ask the banks to submit original documents. One needs a court order so that banks can be required to submit the original documents.

No Pidal account

Arnold Tagle, branch manager of the Union Bank-Perea, said he had not encountered a Jose Pidal account.

Tagle said he could not deny or confirm the existence of accounts of the Tohs and Tan "without court order" as specified by the General Banking Act of 2000 and Republic Act No. 1405, or the Bank Secrecy Law. Tagl\e said he had not met or transacted with Arroyo.

Edwin Lapuz, former branch manager of Union Bank-Perea and now assigned to the bank's Ayala office, said he had neither met Arroyo nor handled transactions involving the First Gentleman during his stint at the Perea branch.

Like Tagle, Lapuz said that there was no existing Jose Pidal account at the branch and that bank secrecy laws prohibited him from confirming or denying the existence of Arroyo's alleged dummy accounts.

Gregorio Cervantes, branch manager of International Exchange Bank-Perea, said the Bank Secrecy Law was prohibiting him from confirming or denying the existence of a Jose Pidal account or of other dummy accounts.

Ferdinanad Galvez, branch manager of International Exchange Bank-Ortigas, Pasig City branch and former branch manager of the Perea branch, said he also could not confirm or deny the existence of a Jose Pidal account and other dummy accounts in the bank because of the bank secrecy law.

Lacson told the INQUIRER that he expected the banks not to give the information.

"I can't blame them because they're adhering to the bank secrecy law," he said in a phone interview.

Suspension of Lacson

Sen. John Osmeña said Lacson could be suspended for the remainder of his term by the Senate should he fail to prove his charges against the First Gentleman.

At a press conference, Osmeña admitted that Lacson could not be forced to submit his own evidence to pin down the First Gentleman.

"You cannot tell him, 'you show us your evidence.' But if he is accused of an unparliamentary behavior, and that accusation is brought before the (Senate) committee on ethics, the committee (can investigate him)," Osmeña said.

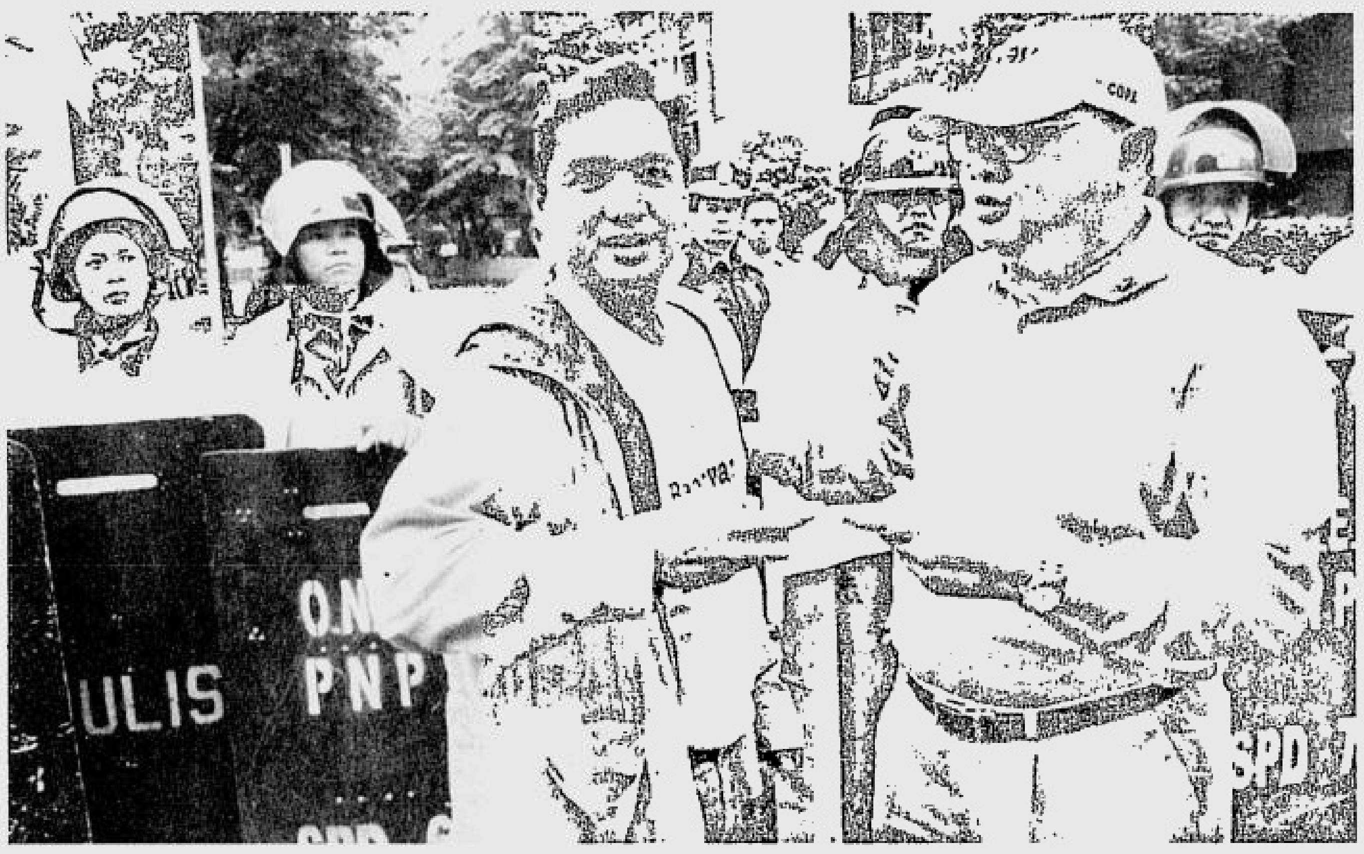
Should the ethics committee find the accusation justified, then it "can recommend on the floor and the (chamber) can vote to support the report of the committee."

He cited a precedent in the 1960s in the House of Representatives involving Rep. Sergio Osmeña Jr., the father of Sen. Sergio Osmeña III.

The congressman was suspended for the remainder of his term by the House ethics committee for alleging that then President Carlos Garcia had received a bribe.

"When he was asked to submit proof of his allegation and he failed, the House suspended him (for the balance of his term)," Osmeña said.

When he went to the Supreme Court, the latter "upheld the action of the House," he added.



TEDDY Casiño of Bayan and Pastor Boy Saycon of Copa lead anti-corruption rally outside the LTA Building on Perea Street in Makati City.

ERIK ARAZAS

Kabalens hold pro-GMA rally at Edsa

From page A1

(CARE) said they organized the rally in defense of democratic institutions and the presidency.

Pampanga Rep. Oscar Rodriguez, one of the prosecutors in the impeachment trial of deposed President Joseph Estrada, said there were "serious attempts" to put the government in a "shaky position."

The rally, he said, was intended to "preserve the democratic government at all cost from a possible takeover by armed groups."

CARE leader, Angeles City Councilor Alex Cauguiran, clarified that the rally was neither pro-administration nor pro-Macapagal.

"This is in defense of democratic institutions that the people have rebuilt through people power. No matter how imperfect the system is, it is better than the dictatorship that the remnants of Marcos rule are trying to bring back through a civilian-military junta," he said.

The CARE evolved from the CORD coalition, which aligned itself with political forces that helped then Vice President Macapagal-Arroyo assume power through Edsa II in January 2001.

PAMPANGA flexes its people power with a pro-administration rally on Edsa led by Gov. Lito Lapid, Vice Gov. Mikee Arroyo and Angeles City Mayor Ed Pamintuan. Caloocan City Mayor Rey Malonzo also joined the march.

JAN BONDOC

Motorcade

Lapid and 15 of Pampanga's 22 mayors were seen leading the demonstrators, numbering some 7,000, as they massed at the Paskuhan Village in the City of San Fernando. The people were herded in 120 vehicles, mostly buses, that left Pampanga for an "anti-coup" motorcade at past 11 a.m.

They brought posters that read, "No to mutiny! Yes to Democracy!" and many streamers, painted with a red heart, that proclaimed, "We love President Gloria."

Cauguiran said the group's decision to send Kapampangans to the Edsa Shrine was due to a "credible information" that there would be a "movement in the military" aimed at grabbing the power from Ms Macapagal.

Other sources in the coalition said they learned about the "A-1 intelligence report" only on Monday when the President stayed overnight at the presidential residence in Clark Field for the Clark's centennial celebration.

"There really is a plot," Lapid told reporters at the People Power Monument. "That's why we've decided to come out in the open and denounce it."

Malonzo said he and the other protesters wanted to show the "conspirators" that "[the] majority of the people condemn the destabilization plot."

Stop bickerings

Lapid advised politicians to reserve their bickerings for next year's elections. "What we want here is peace," he said. "Controversies and coup rumors will only scare away foreign investors."

The governor cited Sen. Panfilo Lacson's allegation that First Gentleman Mike Arroyo had laundered around P260 million in election campaign contributions.

The ongoing Senate inquiry into Lacson's exposé, he said, was not doing the country any good. "These things should be settled in court," he said.

Police and military authorities refused to yield an inch of the Edsa Shrine to the demonstrators, saying their orders were to keep the place free from all sorts of political activities.

"It would be unfair for the Church to let one group in, and another group out. This is a sacred place meant for spiritual gatherings. Our order is to maintain that," Supt. Ericson Velasquez, Mandaluyong City police chief, said.

The demonstration stalled traffic from Ortigas Avenue to Santolan Road. *With reports from Christian V. Esguerra and Luige del Puerto*

GMA puts up brave front amid political troubles at home

By Philip C. Tubeza

BANDAR SERI BAGAWAN (via PLDT)—Amid troubles at home, President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday put up a brave front at the 15th general meeting of the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC).

She said she would not be distracted by critics and would focus instead on her work. And she painted bright economic prospects for the Philippines, adding that she herself wanted to be "a positive force for change."

"As President, I am proud of our achievements on both the peace and economic fronts," she said in her keynote address before the PECC delegates.

"The nature of my job means that there will always be detractors and critics of my performance. The right thing for me to do is to continue to focus on the job at hand and be a positive force for change. And that is ensuring that we remain on a path of progress.

"I want to be a positive force for change to heal the deep divisions in my country ... I'm working for even more progress going forward, and I do not want to get drawn into political debates that divide our country rather than promote the unity that is so important for peace."

The President also touched on the scandal surrounding her husband, Jose Miguel Arroyo, saying that the charges against him should be tackled in court.

"Intermingled with honest-to-goodness prosecution for graft are various allegations designed to be a distraction from addressing the real issues of real people like peace and the economy. However, let me be clear: on all allegations, justice will take its course," she said, adding:

"I believe in appropriately pursuing all allegations in a responsible court of law, and not manipulated by political opportunists in the court of public opinion. As for my priorities, I will not be distracted from the work of the people and will continue to focus on the job at hand, and that is the economy and the peace."

The President also said the lack of public support for those behind the July 27 mutiny showed the strength of Philippine democracy.

But she acknowledged "that there are those in our society who choose to foster their misguided agenda and lead soldiers astray, away from their service of keeping the peace."

She said these quarters would be dealt with in court.

Changed schedule

Despite continued rumors of restiveness in the military, the President went on with her trip, arriving at the Brunei Darussalam airport at around 9 a.m.

But the original schedule initially distributed to reporters was cut short by more than four hours.

She was supposed to leave at around 4:30 p.m. yesterday but the new schedule distributed Tuesday night showed that she was leaving at noon. She flew back to the Philippines at 12:15 p.m.

Spokesperson Ignacio Bunye said the President had to return to Manila to attend a meeting of the Association of Asian Parliaments.

Upon arrival in Brunei, Ms Macapagal proceeded to the Istana Edinburgh, the official guest house for heads of state, where she gave an interview to the Financial Times and received businessman Jeffrey Koo, head of China Trust.

PRESIDENT Macapagal holds private meeting with Brunei leader Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah. PCPO-MALACAÑANG

At around 10:30 p.m., she was at the International Convention Center to deliver her speech.

"Our path to competitive growth is focused on constantly rebuilding our economy. In that regard, the course of change for our nation is under way and we have turned the corner," she said. "There are those who want us to look back but we must forge ahead. It took hard work, reform and sacrifice to get us to the crossroads." *(See related story on Page A5.)*

The President's speech followed that of Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah Badawi.

The PECC is the only organization in the region that has so far brought together business, government and academic researchers on an equal footing to address key trade and investment issues.

It includes Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, China Columbia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Pacific nation islands, Peru, the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, the United States and Vietnam.

Coup will fail, says GMA upon her return from Brunei

From page A1

destabilization plans are futile and will fail as they have failed in the past," the President said, adding:

"These attempts will fail because they will be rejected by the soldiers as well as by the people.

"The entire chain of command is behind us, and there is no turning back from the tide of positive change, whether in the military organization, in the civilian bureaucracy and in the entire nation."

The President aired her rallying cry to the military and bureaucracy amid fresh rumors of her weakening hold on the military. *(See related story on Page A1.)*

The only revolution

Ms Macapagal said that "as we ward off destabilization attempts," jobs, the economy and reforms would remain as the government's main priorities.

"The only revolution taking place in our country is the revolution in the promulgation of justice and the upliftment of the poor," she said.

"The revolution is not led by any military adventurist or any urban insurrectionist. The revolution is being implemented by our foot soldiers in the civil service."

The President said the presence of the major service and field commanders at yesterday's event served to show to all that "the government, the administration and the civil government have the support of the Filipino soldier and the support of the Filipino people."

She said she would avert destabilization attempts through the unswerving pursuit of justice and political consolidation, primarily in the civil service that outnumbered the military 20 to 1.

After her speech, the President, who holds the defense portfolio in a concurrent capacity, met with military and police officials led by Gen. Narciso Abaya, AFP chief of staff.

Abaya came late to the program. It was Air Force chief Gen. Nestor Santillan who escorted the President during the parade.

Top Cabinet officials attended the affair, but a notable no-show was Vice President Teofisto Guingona.

In Malacañang, deputy spokesperson Ricardo Saludo said the President would not waste her time wooing political allies to support her administration and help quell destabilization plots.

DEFINITELY not a joke. President Macapagal frowns as she reads a text message on her cell phone. EDWIN BACASMAS

No wooing

Saludo was responding to a question on the possibility of the Council of Philippine Affairs (Copa) turning its back on the President as a result of Sen. Panfilo Lacson's allegations of corruption against First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo.

"The Palace and the President would not wish to be overly occupied trying to woo political allies left and right, but would like to be focused on the development agenda," Saludo said at a press briefing.

Not turning back

He said Ms Macapagal was convinced that Copa would not allow itself to be used by groups bent on destabilizing the government.

He also pointed out that Copa was merely bothered by the Lacson exposé and did not exactly declare that it was turning its back on the President that it had helped bring to power.

Asked whether Copa was joining destabilization efforts when it announced that it would get to the bottom of the Lacson exposé, Saludo said he could not say so.

But he said it was natural for any group that had previously supported any administration to go against it later, as shown in the experience of many governments.

On the Lacson exposé, Saludo expressed concern that some groups might exploit it and use the media to contribute to political instability.

He said that while the President welcomed even bad news as part of freedom of speech, what was troublesome was the possibility that certain quarters would twist the news.

He insisted that the "Jose Pidal" controversy did not involve the government, and that the work of various agencies and departments were not affected by it.

Dinner with the PMA

The President may not be wooing political allies, but she will have dinner in Malacañang tomorrow with the Philippine Military Academy's most controversial batch of graduates.

PMA Class 1971 includes two of her most vocal critics—opposition Senators Lacson and Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan.

But Lacson and Honasan, suspected as the mastermind of the July 27 mutiny, will most likely not show up, according to Director Ricardo de Leon, Philippine National Police spokesperson.

Lacson is preoccupied with his allegations against the President's husband, while Honasan continues to be inaccessible.

De Leon said he and his "mistahs" (classmates) had sought the dinner to assure the President of their support.

"We want her to know that we are solidly behind her administration," he told reporters.

Besides the supposed destabilization plot, another key issue expected to be tackled tomorrow night is the reported rift among three batch members in connection with the top PNP post.

Deputy Directors General Edgar Aglipay, Virtus Gil and Reynaldo Velasco are said to be bickering over the position.

But in a batch meeting about two weeks ago, the three officials denied the rift, saying the choice for the next PNP chief rested solely on the President. *With reports from Cynthia D. Balana and Christian V. Esguerra*

Destabilization moves neutralized, says Golez

From page A1

into what he called "partisan bickering."

"We cannot and will not be drawn to react to speculations and scenarios authored by various individuals and groups," the Vice President said in a statement. "Our duty is to our people, our Constitution, our nation."

At a hastily called press conference in Camp Aguinaldo, Gen. Narciso Abaya, Armed Forces chief of staff, denied that Lieutenant Generals Gregorio Camiling, Ernesto Carolina, Roy Kyamko and Alfonso Dagudag and Rear Adm. Edgardo Israel had quit. He said the rumor was merely part of a "bigger plan" to topple the government.

Camiling is the Army commander; Carolina, deputy chief of staff; Kyamko, Southern Command chief; Dagudag, Southern Luzon Command chief; and Israel, Civil Relations Service chief.

Direct attack

Abaya warned those behind the rumor that if evidence warranted, the military would charge them in court.

"We take this as a direct attack against the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and we consider this as an attempt of a threat group out to undermine the government and the duly constituted authority," he said.

Abaya told reporters as much earlier in the day at the Commission on Appointments hearing, where he was promoted to full general.

He said that with the latest rumor, he had to agree with the opinion aired by Brig. Gen. Victor Corpus, former military intelligence chief, that destabilization efforts were continuing.

"From the way things are happening, [Corpus] may have the correct assessment—meaning, there will be [more such] moves until the [2004] elections," Abaya said.

But he said the public should not panic or believe the rumors.

"For the peace of mind of our countrymen, we are keeping a force enough to address this destabilization," he said, adding that the military remained on blue alert or "much lower than red alert and much higher than no alert."

Copa meeting

In a phone interview, Council on Philippine Affairs chair Billy Esposo confirmed that Copa had met with three retired generals. But he laughed off suggestions that destabilization moves were discussed in the meeting.

He said the meetings were intended to examine the current state of the country in the light of the "Jose Pidal" exposé of Sen. Panfilo Lacson.

"There was such a meeting last Monday, and three retired generals attended along with former Capt. Rene Jarque," Esposo said.

He said the ex-generals were Antonio Villanueva of the Philippine Air Force, a certain General Navarro whose son was part of the July 27 mutiny, and another whose name he failed to get. A professor of the Philippine Military Academy, whose name he could not recall, was also in attendance.

Esposo said that at the meeting, the generals "confirmed the problems in the military, including the restlessness that refuses to go away" even with the resignation of Angelo Reyes as defense secretary.

He said the generals and Jarque also talked about the supposed graft and corruption in the military, while the PMA professor talked about the system in the academy that was "responsible for producing" the July 27 mutiny.

According to Esposo, the feedback that the generals got from their colleagues in the military was that "the restlessness will go away" if President Macapagal-Arroyo steps down.

Getting the feel

But Esposo was quick to say that there was no talk about destabilizing or overthrowing the government.

"The generals and Captain Jarque are not seeking the ouster of the President but were merely reporting what they are getting as feedback," he said.

"There was no talk of destabilization, only a sharing of experiences. This should not to be misconstrued as the general tone of the conference. We only wanted to get the feel of what the military is feeling."

Esposo also said certain quarters were bound to "distort" what had happened in the meeting "for their own agenda."

"On one hand, you have people who really want to destabilize the government, and on the other, you have people in the Palace who want to protect their own turf in the government. People want to use certain events for their own ends," he said.

He also said Copa meetings were part of a planned national conference for understanding and unity that the group was initiating.

"We see the Jose Pidal exposé by Senator Lacson as part of a chain of whirlwind events, and we were wondering what is happening to our country and where we are going. The Philippines in a revolution mode," he said.

In an interview with dzBB, Jose "Peping" Cojuangco, another Copa stalwart, said his group was only meeting with various sectors "to talk about the country's problems and how to come up with a solution.

"We felt that at this point, the [Lacson] exposé could end up in a conflagration," said the former Tarlac congressman.

The Copa is composed of groups from the Left, the Church, business, and civil society.

Main topic

Ricardo Saludo, deputy spokesperson for Ms Macapagal, said the threat of destabilization was the main topic of Tuesday's Cabinet meeting.

During that meeting, the President and her Cabinet were briefed on the aborted "Campaign Oplan Andres," which supposedly included the takeover by renegade soldiers of the Glorietta commercial complex in Makati on July 27.

The discussion also focused on the government's measures to foil destabilization moves, Saludo said.

He said that intelligence operations had uncovered further efforts to destabilize the government, and that the President had instructed her Cabinet to redouble efforts toward economic stability, growth, peace and order, and good governance.

Golez said the government would soon implement the security mechanisms that Indonesia adopted following the bombing of the Marriott Hotel there.

He said all establishments would be required to meet the same security standards, and the government would conduct periodic checks to ensure compliance.

In announcing his resignation as defense secretary last week, Reyes spoke of "a well-organized, well-funded effort to bring down democracy."

"I think it is very apparent now that there is a group or groups out there [spreading rumors] just to sow intrigue in the AFP, and this started right after the [July 27] mutiny," Abaya said yesterday.

Asked if the latest supposed plot was connected to the short-lived mutiny, he said: "It's probably part of a bigger plan to destabilize not only the AFP but the government in general."

Abaya also said the five generals who supposedly quit had themselves dismissed the rumor as "crazy information."

He said Camiling and Carolina were in South Korea and the United States, respectively, on official missions.

Israel and Carolina are retiring from the service in October, and Camiling in November.

Healing

Guingona said various individuals and groups had been visiting him to "seek counsel" and he had told them that "for our nation to go forward and surmount its problems, we must undergo a healing process."

"We must set aside all partisan bickering, dirty tricks below and above ground, as these could and would only contribute to one thing: the destruction of our institutions, and ultimately, tragically, our society," he said, adding:

"We must heal Philippine society. We must heal our land." *With reports from Christine O. Avendaño and Gerald G. Lacuarta*

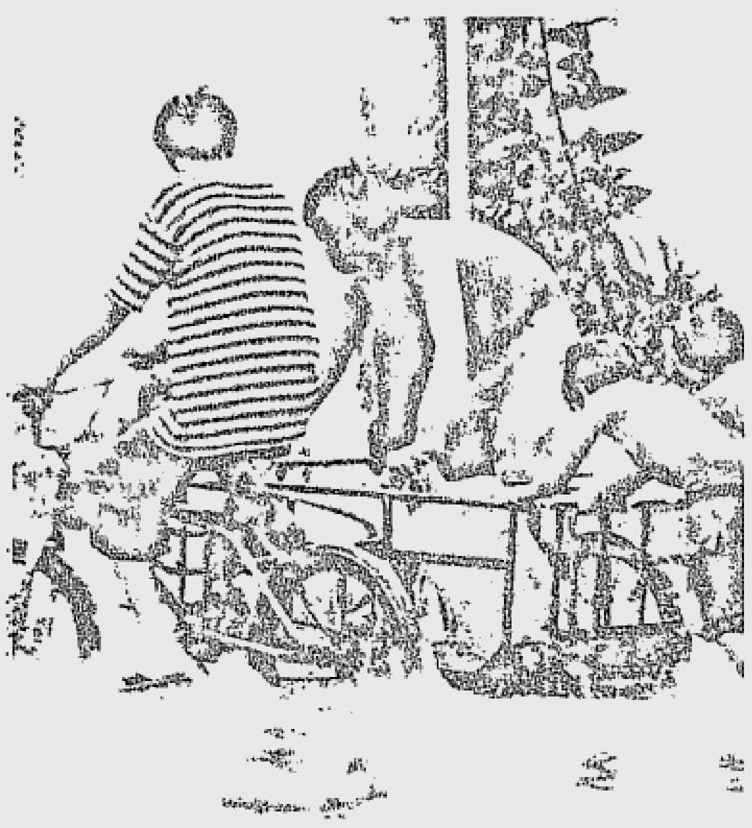
METRO

E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Abelardo S. Ulanday

FOUR DIGIT
4 5 0 7
(In exact order)

SUERTRES
9 4 0

MEGALOTTO 6/45
1 13 15 25 44 45



NOT ENOUGH WATER
A group of boys help a bike-riding man through the still flooded Severino Reyes Street corner Cavite Street in Manila. The man on the bike is on his way to buy drinking water from a purifying station.
ERIK ARAZAS

'STOLEN DRUGS'

Policemen cry sabotage

By Christian V. Esguerra

LAWMEN accused of stealing 50 kilos of high-grade shabu during a raid on an illegal drugs factory in Cavite cried sabotage yesterday after they were put on preventive suspension.

Chief Insp. Nelson Yabut of the police special task force on illegal drugs branded the allegation that they took P100-million worth of shabu from the drug factory in Tanza, Cavite, as "black propaganda."

To prove his point, Yabut presented to media barangay officials from Barangay Capipisan, Tanza, to clear him, Senior Supt. Federico Laciste and at least 10 other lawmen of any wrongdoing.

"They did not steal any shabu during the raid," said a man who was identified as Barangay Capipisan chair Angelo Matro.

Yabut also denied claims that the raid on the drug factory, owned by a certain Jackson Dy, was illegal since it was not backed up by a search warrant.

Chief Insp. Audie Madrideo, Tanza police director, yesterday said Yabut and his men were already at the site even before these could secure a warrant.

Yabut confirmed that they were already outside the mansion-turned-drug factory on July 25, the eve of the raid, but did not enter the compound until the morning of July 26 when a warrant had been acquired.

He accused Madrideo of instigating the demolition job against him and his men.

According to Yabut, Madrideo probably felt bad because Interior Secretary Jose Lina Jr. scolded the Tanza police chief for not detecting the drug factory.

Meanwhile, Supt. Charles Calima, intelligence chief of the task force on illegal drugs, said, "The PR man of the syndicate, with the help of police protectors, are now trying to destroy the accomplishments of the team through black propaganda and coercion."

Members of the antidrug task force tried to fend for themselves as Deputy Director Gen. Edgar Aglipay, the police antidrug czar, barred the accused lawmen from joining other antidrug operations pending the result of the investigation by the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group.

"The success of the campaign on illegal drugs depends on the credibility of its operating units," said police spokesperson Ricardo de Leon. *With Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Stop! Bang! Bang! Oops! Wrong car

RED-FACED police officials yesterday apologized to a woman and her son whose van was shot at by mistake by lawmen pursuing kidnap-for-ransom suspects in Cavite on Monday.

"It is indeed unfortunate, and we humbly apologize to the family of Mrs. (Marinel) Kalambakal," Senior Supt. Alan Purisima, head of the Police Anti-Crime and Emergency Response (Pacer), said in a statement.

Despite the apology, Philippine National Police chief Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. grounded the Pacer personnel involved in the incident, PNP spokesperson Ricardo de Leon revealed.

"They are under restriction pending the result of the investigation," de Leon told reporters.

In his report to Ebdane, Purisima said that on Thursday last week, armed men abducted Korean businessman San Ik Jang and his driver Roberto Santiago.

Early on Monday, the Korean and his driver were released at the Alabang Town Center in Muntinlupa City after paying P3.5 million in ransom.

During investigation, the driver told the police that the kidnappers used a green Toyota Revo. This prompted Pacer to look for the vehicle.

At about 9 p.m. along Molino Road in Bacoor, Cavite, Pacer personnel led by Insp. Ofelio Concina saw a green Toyota Revo with license plate XFR 970 and tried to stop it.

The Pacer lawmen claimed that the occupants of the Revo "had no intention" of stopping so they immobilized the van by shooting at its tires.

Instead of armed suspects, the van's occupants were Kalambakal and her son Janaka.
Christian V. Esguerra

PNP to form elite anti-bank rob unit

By Alcuin Papa

JOLTED by two recent bank robberies in the cities of Makati and Parañaque, the Philippine National Police is now considering the formation of an elite anti-bank robbery unit.

Makati City Police Director Supt. Jovito Gutierrez said the proposal for the anti-crime task force was raised during a meeting with security officers of the Bankers Association of the Philippines early this week.

The special unit, Gutierrez said, could be patterned after the Police Anti-Crime and Emergency Response (Pacer).

"It will be a dedicated unit focused on bank robberies," Gutierrez said.

Meanwhile, the Parañaque police has arrested one of the suspects in the robbery of the Unionbank branch in the city early this week.

A team led by Parañaque City Chief of Police Supt. Ronald Estilles said Gerry Antonio, 38, was arrested in a hideout in 143 Santolan Compound, Pasig at around 4:30 p.m. last Tuesday.

Estilles said they are still looking for two more suspects in the robbery.

In another development, officials of the Eastern Police District have urged banks, shops and stores to install security cameras in their premises.

The cameras could help identify suspects should these establishments be robbed, the officials said. *With a report by Luige del Puerto*

Recruiter who duped 1,500 falls

By Leila B. Salaverria

A WOMAN accused of duping 1,500 persons who wanted to work in Japan has been arrested by the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI).

Maricar Inovero was nabbed in a townhouse on Regalado Avenue, Fairview, Quezon City, on Aug. 29, by agents of the NBI Special Action Unit.

The agents were armed with a warrant issued by Malolos Regional Trial Court Branch 12 Judge Crisanto Concepcion.

Inovero has been charged with estafa and illegal recruitment and has been denied bail. She is now detained at the NBI jail in Manila.

According to investigators, Inovero was a partner at the Harvel International Talent Management and Promotion Agency which recruited workers for Japan.

Authorities have discovered, however, that the agency was not licensed by the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration.

Despite this, Harvel, purportedly with the help of Inovero, sought hundreds of prospective workers who were told to shell out P20,000 to P40,000 in placement fees.

The jobs reportedly did not exist.

Earlier, the Makati police arrested Harleta Velasco, Harvel General Manager, who was likewise charged with illegal recruitment.

Ping Lacson acting true to form

ON TARGET
Ramon Tulfo

GONE are the days when the Senate was peopled by gentlemen and ladies, when gossip was never discussed in its august halls. Claro M. Recto, Lorenzo Tañada, Camilo Osias, Jose W. Diokno are probably turning in their graves.

Sen. Panfilo Lacson has brought further dishonor to the Senate when he revealed a supposed love affair between First Gentleman Mike Arroyo and his accountant, Victoria Toh.

Even if it's true, it's none of Lacson's business or the whole Senate's to look into Arroyo's private affairs.

Pardon me, Ping, but your slip is showing!

* *

During the blue ribbon committee hearing, Lacson also showed supposedly lewd photos of Arroyo to Eugenio Mahusay, the witness, and his lawyer. The senator claimed that Mahusay gave him the "lewd" photos.

But he piqued the curiosity of reporters covering the proceedings when he refused to show the photos to them.

"*Medyo mahalay kasi* (They're quite lewd)," he said.

What was the "honorable" senator's purpose in saying that he had lewd photos of Arroyo before his colleagues and the public? Were the photos relevant to the proceedings?

* * *

Lacson chose the wrong profession. He would have made an excellent movie scribe instead of a policeman.

Even before, he was already very good at spreading gossip, a movie scribe's specialty.

In the early 1990s when Lacson and this writer were still friends, I took him to a glitzy bar in Ermita, Manila, called Cafe de Malate. Lacson was Laguna provincial commander at the time.

* * *

Wanting to be incognito, Lacson introduced himself to the GRO as a movie reporter. The girl and Lacson were engrossed in topics of mutual interest.

I'm not in the habit of eavesdropping on other people's conversations, but I couldn't help listening to what Lacson and the girl were talking about. They were talking about who was dating who in the local movie kingdom.

I didn't pay attention at the time since most men hide their identity when they go to a nightclub for the first time, but Lacson was a breed apart. He was tops.

* * *

He was so good at concealing his identity to the woman he sounded very credible as a movie reporter. He even mimicked the sing-song, effeminate inflection of a typical movie scribe.

When I went back to the bar a week later, I nearly fell off my chair when the girl who was Lacson's partner asked me: "*Bakit hindi mo kasama yung reporter na bading* (Why is the gay reporter not with you)?"

Recalling that incident, I'm not surprised Lacson acted the way he did at Tuesday's Senate hearing. In other words, he was just acting true to form.

* * *

That's why Mike Arroyo hit the nail on the head when he challenged Lacson to "be a man" and stop "wearing the skirt of parliamentary immunity" at the Senate on Tuesday.

Mr. Arroyo, you're asking for the moon!

Senator Lacson doesn't fight fair.

* * *

Look how unfair this guy is. He calls me a "certified extortionist" in a privilege speech on the Senate floor, making my friends rib me for a "balato."

And when I showed last Saturday's episode of "Isumbong mo kay Tulfo" at RPN 9, he said he was filing libel charges against me in court.

Lacson can't take what he dishes out.

Solon on Hong Kong junket: What probe?

By Tarra Quismundo

FOR MANILA Rep. Harry Angping, no investigation is going on.

"It's all media hype," said Angping on the reported investigation being conducted by City Hall on the four-day trip to Hong Kong and China of barangay chairmen from Angping's district.

"There's no formal investigation. No formal committee was created to investigate (the trip)," added Angping, who paid for the trip of the barangay officials.

Manila Mayor Lito Atienza has ordered the city legal officer and the barangay bureau to investigate the "educational trip."

"I'm probing reports that barangay officials of Manila went abroad without proper clearance. And worse, to facilitate their exit, they were made to sign affidavits declaring they are not public officials," said Atienza in an interview the other day.

Barangay Bureau Executive Director Norberto Enriquez said that 61 names now appear in their partial list from the Bureau of Immigration and Deportation.

Atienza said the list includes barangay councilors and a retired barangay chairman. He added that he has requested an official list from the Bureau of Immigration and Deportation.

Atienza said he had a dialogue with 12 of the officials who went on the trip, and they reported that they did not know that they were supposed to get travel permits from City Hall.

He said the officials related that they were asked to sign the alleged waivers in haste, while inside the plane to Hong Kong, a few minutes before take-off.

"We are looking into what action we would take. Our intention is to correct this malpractice. There was a clear violation of administrative rules," said Atienza.

But Angping said there is no legality involved since he did not use government money for the trip. The legislator shouldered the travel costs.

3 new prisons to be built

INTERIOR and Local Government Secretary Jose Lina Jr. yesterday said three new jails would be built in Metro Manila, Cavite and Cebu to accommodate the rising number of detention prisoners.

Lina, in an interview, said the jail construction is part of the government's intensified campaign against criminals and illegal drugs.

He said the funds for the building of the new jails would be sourced from the P100 million released by Malacañang early this week.

"The P100 million is part of the P1 billion budget allocated by the Arroyo administration for its antidrug and anti-crime campaign," Lina added.

He said the rising number of detention prisoners, especially those facing drug charges, required the construction of more jails.

Lina added that there were at least 3.4 million drug users nationwide, up from only 20,000 in 1970. Of these, 1.8 million are regular users while the remaining 1.6 million are the so-called occasional users. *Nelson F. Flores*

Pro-Erap rally in front of SC dispersed

POLICE yesterday dispersed a protest rally staged by some 150 supporters of former President Joseph Estrada in front of the Supreme Court office in Manila.

Police said the rally was dispersed because the participants had no permit. Six rallyists were arrested during the dispersal operation.

The groups who participated in the rally were the Kapit Bisig Masang Pilipino (KBMP) and Aktibong Kilusan Tungo sa Iisang Bayan (Aktib), which is aligned with the People's Movement Against Poverty (PMAP).

The groups expressed support for the rebel soldiers who participated in the July 27 mutiny and called for justice for them. They also condemned Chief Justice Hilario Davide and called for his resignation. *Leila B. Salaverria*

METROBRIEFS

Ban on solvents

A GROUP of non-government organizations yesterday urged the passage of a law banning the manufacture and sale of aromatic solvent like rugby to eradicate its abuse among street children. Psyche Mendoza, a volunteer working for the NGO Kanlungan sa Erma Ministry, however, clarified that they do not want a ban on rugby because of its importance in the construction industry. The group's call came following reports on rugby use and abuse among street children. NGOs estimate the number of street children at 1.5 million. *Tina Santos*

Watch out

WITH the Christmas season fast approaching, police officials have warned the public about the expected rise in crimes, particularly robbery. Officials from the National Capital Region Police Office told the INQUIRER that based on previous statistics, robbery incidents tend to rise during the Christmas season, which Filipinos usually perceive to begin as early as September. One police official also cited the coming 2004 elections as another possible motive for the expected rise in crimes. He said it was possible the bank robberies in the past few days were aimed at accumulating campaign funds. *Edson Tandoc Jr.*

Approval needed

AFTER opposing the installation of pink urinals and ordering the removal of illegal waiting sheds and billboards in the city, Manila Mayor Lito Atienza said there will be no more construction of barangay halls, daycare centers, nameplates, and markers, without City Hall's approval. "We cannot allow anyone, no matter how well meaning, to just build structures in public facilities, because these might run counter to our plans for the said facilities," said Atienza. *Tarra Quismundo*

Nabbed at ER

THE EMERGENCY room is not the best hiding place. Domingo Calizada, 41, a member of the Sigue-Sigue Sputnik gang, tried to do this yesterday after snatching the bag of Naila Sagel, 18, when she fell asleep while watching over her aunt at the Andres Bonifacio Memorial Center in Tondo. A woman saw the snatching, however, and shouted for help. The suspect ran to the emergency room to hide, but was arrested by the security guards. *Tarra Quismundo*

Injured in fire

ONE PERSON was confirmed injured in the hour-long fire that destroyed 50 homes at the Parola compound in North Harbor, Port Area, Manila on Tuesday. Police identified the injured as Gregorio Estopia, 47, jobless, who suffered cuts on his left foot after a sheet of metal roofing fell on him. *Leila Salaverria*

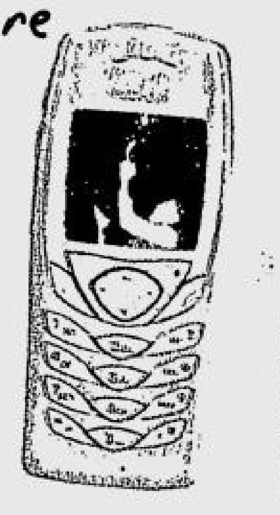
HOOK of the week

Download exclusive

UAAP content!

- Scores
- News
- Highlights
- And More

Get it through a NOKIA 6100 FREE at Plan 1995



- 'QUICK-CLICK' MENU SYSTEM.
- CONSUMABLE PLANS FOR TEXT, MMS & GPRS USAGE.
- ONLY P5 PER MMS DOWNLOAD.

This offer is good from Sept 5-11, 2003 only.
You only have these 7 days to comply, so grab this phone while you can!

Requirements for Switching Plans:*

To switch to Plan 1995 , bring your latest 2 months' paid billing statements with a minimum of P1,800 per month.

* All plans are covered by a 24-month contract period. Pre-termination charges apply.
**Credit card transactions are subject to bank approval.

Requirements for new subscription and switching plans:*

- Completely accomplished Service Application Form(SAF).
- Valid I.D.
- Proof of billing address.
- Financial Documents or any locally-issued credit card with the latest paid bill.**

*For switchers, surrender your working non-SMART postpaid GSM SIM

addict MOBILE
Get hooked.
www.addictmobile.com

PER DTI NCR PERMIT NO. 2461 SERIES OF 2003

SMART WIRELESS CENTERS

NORTH NCR WIRELESS CENTERS

CALOOCAN WIRELESS CENTER
277 EDSA near Gen. Tinio St., Monumento Caloocan City

QUEZON AVENUE WIRELESS CENTER
G/F Universal Records Bldg, 1497 Quezon Ave.,Quezon City

CUBAO WIRELESS CENTER
Stall # 63 & 64 Fiesta Carnival, Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezon City

ROBINSON'S NOVALICHES WIRELESS CENTER
3rdLevel Robinson's Place Novaliches, Quirino Highway, Quezon City

SM NORTH EDSA WIRELESS CENTER
G/F Cyberzone Mall, Carpark Extension, SM North EDSA, Quezon City

ROBINSON GALLERIA WIRELESS CENTER
Level 3 Robinson's Galleria, EDSA corner Ortigas, Quezon City

STA. LUCIA WIRELESS CENTER
Level 3 Phase 3, Sta Lucia Grand Mall Marcos Highway Cainta, Rizal

VIRRAMALL WIRELESS CENTER
G/F Virra Mall Shopping Center, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila

SM MEGAMALL WIRELESS CENTER
4/F Cyberzone Area, SM Megamall Bldg B. Mandaluyong City

PODIUM WIRELESS CENTER
5th Level, The Podium,ADB Avenue Ortigas Center

MANILA EAST WIRELESS CENTER
G/F Manila East Arcade Bldg., Manila East Road, Taytay, Rizal

SOUTH NCR WIRELESS CENTERS

BINONDO WIRELESS CENTER
572-574 Quintin Paredes, Binondo, Manila

SM MANILA WIRELESS CENTER
Level 4 SM Manila, Concepcion St., Cor. Arroceros & San Marcelino st., Manila

FESTIVAL MALL WIRELESS CENTER
Level 4 Center Hall Festival Supermall Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang Muntinlupa

SMART TOWER WIRELESS CENTER
G/F Smart Tower, 6799 Ayala Avenue, Makati City

SM BICUTAN WIRELESS CENTER
2nd level Annex B Dona Soledad Avenue Cor. West Service Road Bicutan Paranaque City

SM SOUTH MALL WIRELESS CENTER
2ND Level Cyberzone Area SM Southmall,Alabang Zapote Rd., Pamplona, Las Pinas

GREENBELT WIRELESS CENTER
2/f Fairmart, Greenbelt, Makati City

ATC WIRELESS CENTER
2nd Floor New Wing Alabang Town Center, Ayala Alabang

NORTH LUZON WIRELESS CENTERS

BAGUIO WIRELESS CENTER
Banco de Oro bldg , Upper Session Road Baguio City, 2600

BAGUIO - ABANAO SQUARE
2/F Abanao Square, Abanao cor. Zanuela Sts. Baguio City, 2600

BAGUIO - JOHN HAY
Mile Hi Camp John Hay Baguio City, 2600

BAYOMBONG WIRELESS CENTER
Garingan Bldg., National Road, Bayombong Nueva Vizcaya 3700

DAGUPAN WIRELESS CENTER
G/F Insular Life Bldg. Arellano St.,Dagupan City

ILAGAN WIRELESS CENTER
G/f ZARA Bldg., 129 Rizal St. Centro, Ilagan Isabela

LAOAG WIRELESS CENTER
Conching Building (beside LBC Bank) Rizal St., Laoag City

SF LA UNION WIRELESS CENTER
CKC Arcade, Quezon Avenue San Fernando La Union (Fronting Pillars')

SANTIAGO WIRELESS CENTER
G/F Almazan Bldg., Nat'l Highway cor. Luna St.,Santiago City

TUGUEGARAO WIRELESS CENTER
G/F Diwa Bldg., College Ave cor. Burgos Street Tuguegarao City, Cagayan

URDANETA WIRELESS CENTER
Alexander St., Urdaneta City, Pangasinan

VIGAN WIRELESS CENTER"G/F Plaza Maestro Building, Florentino Street, Vigan City

CENTRAL LUZON WIRELESS CENTERS

ANGELES NEPO MALL
3rd Level, Nepo Mall Teresa Avenue corner St. Joseph street Angeles City

BALANGA WIRELESS CENTER
2nd/F Rural Bank of Pilar Bldg., J.P. Rizal St., Balanga, Bataan

BALIUAG WIRELESS CENTER
De Leon Bldg , Cagayan Valley Road, Poblacion, Baliuag Bulacan

CABANATUAN WIRELESS CENTER
Ground Level, NE Pacific Mall, Maharlika Highway, Cabanatuan City

MALOLOS WIRELESS CENTER
G/F FC Bldg , Sumapang Matanda McArthur Hiway Malolos Bulacan

OLONGAPO WIRELESS CENTER
G/F Ocampo Bldg , #960 Rizal Ave., East Tapinac Olongapo City

ROBINSON'S PAMPANGA WIRELESS CENTER
2nd Level, Robinson's Starmills - Pampanga OG Road, City of San Fernando Pampanga

TARLAC WIRELESS CENTER
1030-a Al's Bldg Annex, McArthur Hiway San Nicolas, Tarlac

SOUTH LUZON WIRELESS CENTER

BATANGAS CITY (BATANGAS)
G/F Insular Life Bldg (in front of Batangas University) Hilltop, Batangas City

CALAMBA (LAGUNA)
Anderson Bldg. II, Parian, Calamba Laguna

CALAPAN (ORIENTAL MINDORO)
New Era bldg., J.P Rizal St., Calapan, Oriental Mindoro

DAET (CAMARINES NORTE)
G/F Alegre Bldg , J. Lukban St., Daet Camarines Norte

IMUS (ROBINSON'S CAVITE)
Level 4, Robinson's Place, Aguinaldo Hi-way Imus, Cavite

LEGAZPI (ALBAY)
G/F D. Yenzon Bldg , Lapu-Lapu St.,Legazpi City, Albay

LIPA (BATANGAS)
G/F Guadalupe Plaza bldg , M.K. Lina St., Lipa City Batangas 4217

LUCENA (QUEZON)
173 Granja St., Lucena City

NAGA (CAMARINES SUR)
#41 Panganiban Drive, cor. Isarog St.,Naga City

PINAMALAYAN (ORIENTAL MINDORO)
G/F Tri Star Bldg., Francisco St., Pinamalayan Oriental Mindoro

PUERTO PRINCESA (PALAWAN)
Door 1 2/F Baisa Bldg., National Highway San Pedro, Puerto Princesa City Palawan

SAN JOSE (OCCIDENTAL MINDORO)
J & S Bldg , Liboro St San Jose Occidental Mindoro 5100

SAN PABLO (LAGUNA)
Cheing Bldg , M. Basa St , cor P Burgos St.,San Pablo City 4000

TAGAYTAY(CAVITE)
OLIVAREZ PLAZA, Emilio Aguinaldo Highway Tagaytay City

VISAYAS WIRELESS CENTERS

KALIBO, AKLAN WIRELESS CENTER
Arch. Reyes St.,Kalibo, Aklan 5600

BORACAY WIRELESS CENTER
Balabag, Boracay Island Malay, Aklan , Besides Land Bank

SM ILOILO WIRELESS CENTER
Lower Grnd Flr. SM City, Benigno Aquino Drive, Mandurriao, Iloilo City

ROBINSON'S ILOILO WIRELESS CENTER
3rd Floor Robinson' Place, Ledesma St.,Ilo-Ilo City

GAISANO ROXAS WIRELESS CENTER
G/F Gaisano City, Arnaldo Blvd Roxas City

BACOLOD WIRELESS CENTER
G/F EL Court, 1ST Lacson St., Bacolod City

ROBINSON'S BACOLOD
ROBINSONS PLACE Level 2 South Arcade, Lacson Mandalagan, Bacolod

CADIZ WIRELESS CENTER
Punta Cabahug Street, Cadiz City,Negros Occ.

KABANKALAN WIRELESS CENTER
NZ Bldg Km 91, National highway,Kabankalan City, Negros Occidental

SAN CARLOS WIRELESS CENTER
Eddie Tan Yu bldg , S. Carmona St.,San Carlos City, Negros Occ.

CEBU WIRELESS CENTER
G/F JRG Bldg. , Mango Avenue Cebu City

DUMAGUETE WIRELESS CENTER
Door 2 Milagros Bldg., Perdices St., Dumaguete City

BOGO, CEBU WIRELESS CENTER
San Vicente St., Bogo, Cebu City

SM CEBU WIRELESS CENTER
2 Level SM City, North Reclamation Area Cebu City

TAGBILARAN WIRELESS CENTER
New Capitol Bldg., Marapao St.,Tagbilaran City

TACLOBAN WIRELESS CENTER
ERC Bldg. Cor. Justice & Del Pilar Sts,Tacloban City

CALBAYOG WIRELESS CENTER
G/F B & L Bldg., Magsaysay Blvd.Calbayog City, Samar

CATBALOGAN WIRELESS CENTER
162 Rizal Avenue, Catbalogan, Samar

ORMOC WIRELESS CENTER
Grnd Flr, Sixto Pongos Bldg., Aviles St.,Ormoc City

MINDANAO WIRELESS CENTERS

BUTUAN WIRELESS CENTER
G/F Ramcor Building, P. Burgos St.,Butuan City 8600

CAGAYAN DE ORO WIRELESS CENTER
Entrance 2, Limketkai Center,Lapazan, Cagayan de Oro City

SM CAGAYAN DE ORO WIRELESS CENTER
3rd Level SM City Cagayan de Oro, Upper Carmen Cagayan de Oro City

IILIGAN WIRELESS CENTER
G/f Garcia Building, Quezon Avenue Extension Iligan City

SURIGAO WIRELESS CENTER
G/F Guerra Bldg., Cor Vasquez, Rizal st.,Surigao City

VALENCIA WIRELESS CENTER
Tamay Lang Bldg., G. Lavina Avenue (Fronting Desmark) Valencia Bukidnon

SM DAVAO WIRELESS CENTER
SM City Davao, 3rd Level Quimpo Blvd., Ecoland Matina, Davao City

DAVAO LANDCO WIRELESS CENTER
G/F LANDCO-POCP Corporate Center Pryce Business Park, J.P Laurel Ave., Bajada, Davao City

DAVAO GAISANO WIRELESS CENTER
Gaisano Mall of Davao, 3rd level, J.P. Laurel Avenue, Bajada, Davao City

DIGOS WIRELESS CENTER
2458 Roxas Extension Zone II Digos, Davao Del Sur 8002

TAGUM WIRELESS CENTER
Blucor Bldg., National Highway Tagum Davao del Norte

GEN SANTOS WIRELESS CENTER
G/F RD Bldg., Ireneo Santiago st., Gen. Santos City

COTABATO WIRELESS CENTER
G/f Insular Life Building, SK Pendatun Avenue Cotabato City

GENERAL SANTOS WIRELESS CENTER
G/F RD Bldg., Ireneo Santiago Blvd. General Santos City

KORONADAL WIRELESS CENTER
SMRAA Building Alunan Avenue Koronadal South Cotabato

KIDAPAWAN WIRELESS CENTER
2/F KHAS Realty Corporation Quezon Blvd. Kidapawan City

DIPOLOG WIRELESS CENTER
Osmeña Cor. Echavez St., Dipolog City

OZAMIS WIRELESS CENTER
G/F Insular Life bldg., Don Anselmo Bernard Ave., Corner Jose Abad Santos Ozamis City,Misamis Occidental

PAGADIAN WIRELESS CENTER
Edificio Del Rey, Bonifacio st., cor Jamisola St Pagadian City

TAWI-TAWI WIRELESS CENTER
2/F Bing-Ingho bldg., Datu Halun st., Cor.Sukuran St., Bongao Tawi-Tawi

ZAMBOANGA WIRELESS CENTER
#149 G/F, Fidela Bldg., (La Vina Hotel) Zamboanga City

TSI BRANCHES

NCR

Festival Mall
Space 3062 3rd Level Festival Mall, Alabang, Muntinlupa

Harisson Plaza
2/F Harrison Plaza Shopping Center,A. Mabini cor Adriatico St. Malate Manila(in front of Snapshot)

Robinson's Galleria
3rd Level Madison Ave. Robinson's Galleria Extension

Robinsons Place Manila
Level 3, Pedro Gil Wing Robinsons Place Manila, Malate

Shangri La
Level 1 Shangri-la Mall Shaw Blvd.

Shopwise Libis
G/F Shopwise Supermarket Libis, Quezon City

SM Centerpoint
3/L SM Centerpoint Ramon Magsaysay cor Araneta Avenue, Sta Mesa

SM City Bacoor
Lower Ground, SM Bacoor Rotonda, Bacoor, Cavite

SM Sucat
3/F SM Sucat Dr A. Santos Avenue Brgy. San Dionisio Parañaque City

SM North EDSA
G/F SM Car Park SM City North Edsa Pag-asa 1, Quezon City

SM Megamall
5L Mega A SM Megamall Edsa Mandaluyong

SM City Fairview
Stall 62 Lower Ground Regalado Ave. Quirino Hiway, Fairview

Sta Lucia East Grand Mall
2/F Bridgeway Sta. Lucia East Grandmall Cainta, Rizal(in front of Scents & Fragrance)

Taft Central Exchange
G/F near LRT Entrance Gil Puyat cor Taft Ave Pasay City

Tutuban Mall
22/F Tutuban Mall
Zabarte Town Center Imus
G/F Zabarte Town Center

LUZON

Imus
2th Level, Robinson's Place, Imus, Cavite

Sta Rosa
3rd Level Robinson's Place Brg Tagapo, National hi-way Sta Rosa Laguna

Cabanatuan
Door 2'Sta Rina Bldg Maharlika Hi-way Cabanatuan City

Olongapo
G/F Ocampo Bldg , 960 Ave. East Tapinac, Olongapo City

SM Pampanga
Stole 151, SM City Pampanga, Mexico Olongapo Gapan Road, San Fernando City

Tarlac
Metrotown Extension Ctr 3F Metrotown Mall Mc Arthur hi-way, Tarlac City

VISAYAS

SM City Iloilo
LGF SM City, Benigno Aquino Drive, Mandurriao, Iloilo City

SM City Cebu
3rd Level SM City North Reclamation Area,Cebu City

MINDANAO

SM Davao
3rd Level SM City Ecoland Davao City

Davao Dasi
Dasi Bldg , JP Laurel, Davao City

SPORTS

E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

Editor **Teddyvic S. Melendres**
Assistant Editor **Edwin M. Villanueva**

NCAA TOURNEY

Knights emerge 2nd in Final 4

STANDINGS	W	L
SSC-R	9	4
Letran	8	5
JRU	8	5
Mapua	7	6
SBC	6	8
CSB	6	8
UPHR	5	8
PCU	4	9

GAMES TOMORROW
(*Rizal Memorial Coliseum*)
11:30 a.m.—UPHR vs SSC-R (jrs)
2:00 p.m.—UPHR vs SSC-R (srs)
4:00 p.m.—PCU vs Mapua (srs)
6:00 p.m.—PCU vs Mapua (jrs)

SAN Beda's Arjun Cordero (5) and Jerome Paterno battle Al Magpayo and Gilbert Sanidad of St. Benilde for the rebound. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

By June Navarro

FREDERICK Rodriguez blocked a potential tying jumper by Wynsjohn Te as Letran escaped with an 80-78 squeaker over Jose Rizal yesterday to secure a twice-to-beat advantage in the Final Four of the 79th NCAA basketball tournament at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

Billy Ray Anabo and Aaron Aban collapsed on the driving Te while Rodriguez swatted away his shot as the final buzzer sounded, allowing the Knights to finish their elimination campaign with a 9-5 record.

The Bombers ended their elimination stint with eight wins and six setbacks but automatically collared the third seat in the semifinals over Mapua, having beaten the Cardinals twice in the elims.

Mapua earlier clinched the last slot in the Final Four when College of St. Benilde downed San Beda, 79-69.

The Blazers, out of the running as early as halfway through the eliminations, wrapped up their season with a 6-8 record after winning six of their last seven games.

The Lions abandoned their last hope of making the semifinals through a playoff with the Cardinals by taking a sixth straight defeat in a final 6-8 card.

The Knights will now need just a win over the same Heavy Bombers in the Final Four to reach the finals. Defending champion San Sebastian, which has been conceded the No. 1 spot at the end of the eliminations tomorrow, will enjoy the same twice-to-beat edge in facing the Cardinals in the other semifinal pairing.

Boyet Bautista keyed Letran's win as the 5-foot-7 playmaker scored five of the Knights' last six points.

Te nailed a trey with six seconds left and Aban split his charities to make it 80-78 for Letran, but the hot-shooting Te got bottled up by a Letran triple team on the final play.

Earlier, Al Magpayo rescued CSB from a ferocious final-quarter rally by San Beda from 12 points down behind Jerome Paterno, Arjun Cordero and Michael Casino.

Magpayo, who paced the Blazers with 18 points and 10 rebounds, buried two triples and hauled a couple of rebounds to halt the rampaging Lions.

Scores:

Second game (Srs):

CSB 79—Magpayo 20, Orbeta 13, Capati 12, U. Reyes 11, Mendoza 10, Abad 5, Rivera 4, Sanidad 4.

SBC 69—Paterno 24, Cordero 17, Bombeo 8, Casino 6, Padilla 3, Angeles 3, Cruz 3, Apepe 3, Ong 2, Baldivia 0, Weber 0, Arbole 0.

Quarters: 16-15, 38-26, 59-52, 79-69.

Third Game (Srs)

LETRAN 80—Aban 17, Rodriguez 12, Aldave 11, Pinera 10, Bautista 9, Enrile 9, Santos 6, Fedelicio 6, Reyes 0, Anabo 0.

JRU 78—Te 22, Santos 17, Coyukang 13, Fajardo 9, Berberan 7, Lindaya 5, Domangcas 2, Attunaga 2, De Vera 1, Magtaho 0, Jorge 0.

Quarters: 15-20, 40-55, 60-57, 80-78.

Jerome, Juvic steady but RP loses ground in Nomura Cup

JEROME Delariarte and Juvic Pagunsan remained steady but their backups continued to struggle as the Philippines dropped 14 strokes behind New Zealand after yesterday's second round of the 21st Asia-Pacific amateur golf team championship in Port Douglas, Queensland.

Pagunsan turned in the day's best score for the Filipinos with a one over 72 and Delariarte came through with a 73, but Jay Bayron and Marvin Dumandan again were not up to the task.

Either of the 77s of Bayron and Dumandan counted as the third score of the Philippines, which remained mired in fourth at 439 after a 222 for the day in the three-to-count, four-to-play tourney more popularly known as the Nomura Cup.

New Zealand, behind a 68 by Brad Shilton, stayed on top with their 214 for 425 and US amateur champ Nick Flanagan helped Australia move closer at 227 while Japan was third at 234. Flanagan redeemed himself with a 70 after scoring a 76 that did not count in the first round.

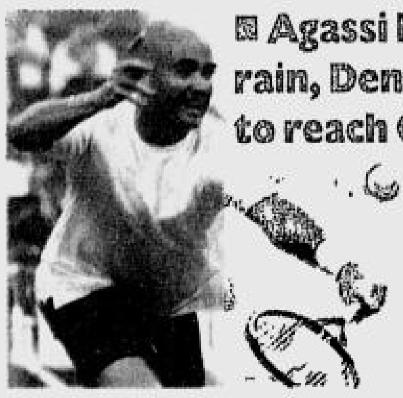
While the RP bets saw their team chances imperiled, Delariarte and Pagunsan kept themselves in the hunt for the individual crown. They are bidding to emulate the feat of the now professional Danny Zarate who became the first and only Filipino so far to win the Nomura Cup individual crown in the 1989 edition in Taiwan.

Back-to-back national champion Delariarte's 142 aggregate for 36 holes put him in a tie with Aussie James Nitties and Yuki Ishikawa for second and just one shot off Shilton. Pagunsan was among those sharing fifth place at 143.

Both RP team skipper Admiral Louie Fernandez and coach Roger Retuerto remained confident Bayron and Dumandan would be able to get in the groove in the last two rounds and help the team climb back into contention.

The Aussies tallied the day's best score of 213 counting the 71 of James Nitties and 72 of Michael Sim. New Zeland had a 214 including the 71 of Bradley Lies and Matthew Holten's 75.

WHAT'S INSIDE



- Agassi hurdles rain, Dent to reach QF /A21

- Gagne sets ML record as Dodgers trip Astros /A21

United Auctioneers, Inc.
TRUCKS, VANS & HEAVY EQUIPMENT
PUBLIC AUCTION
SEPT. 6, 7 & 8, 2003
Sale starts at 8:30 AM SHARP!
Catch The Best At
SUBIC BAY
PHILIPPINES
INSPECTION DATES: AUG 30, 31, SEPT 1 TO 5, 2003
REGISTRATION DATES: AUG 30, 31, SEPT 1 TO 8, 2003

LOCATION MAP
SUBIC
BLDG. 1455 ARGONAUT HIGHWAY, SUBIC BAY FREEPORT, PHILIPPINES
TEL NOS:
(047) 252-1129
252-1155 to 58
FAX NO:
(047) 252-5569

E-MAIL: info@uauctioneers.com WEBSITE: www.uauctioneers.com

MITSUBISHI ROSA BUS
25 BUSES
40 EXCAVATORS
KOMATSU PC220 ELEVATED TYPE W/ BREAKER LINE
40 PAYLOADERS
TCM50B
30 SELF LOADERS
FUSO 12W SELF LOADER W/RAMP
HINO AUGER TRUCK
180 ALUM VANS
FUSO CANTER ALUM VAN
YAMAHA EZ60 GASOLINE GOLF CART
AUCTION SITE
COASTAL OIL STORAGE
PORT
CONTAINER YARD
PORT
BRIDGE
ARGONAUT HI-WAY
RIVER SIDE
BRIDGE
EL KABAYO ROAD
POWER PLANT
RIZAL AVENUE
RCBC
TIPO GATE
GOLF AREA
HITACHI SIGN BOARD

"Svenson made me look so much younger, now I enjoy photo ops with family & friends..."

When talking about the problems of baldness, many of our clients don't have a great deal to smile about. Photo opportunities with friends or family are often a platform for jokes and insensitive remarks that have to be treated with good-humored tolerance.

At Svenson International, we understand how dramatically hair replacement can change our clients' lives. Apart from making them look younger and more attractive, it also brings them renewed confidence at work and at social functions.

If you think it's time to look into an effective hair recovery program, call us today at Svenson International and book your FREE CONSULTATION where we will attend to all your hair loss and baldness concerns.

Interestingly, most of our clients put those old photo albums away in the bedroom closet...now, it seems, they really do have something to smile about.

MAKATI 819 3336 816 1260
QUEZON CITY 372 6631 372 6632
BINONDO 243 0128 244 6913
ALABANG 842 1389 842 4181
CEBU 032 2340851 032 2340853
OPENING HOURS MONDAY-FRIDAY: 8AM-7PM SATURDAY: 8AM-3PM
Svenson International
YOUR CHOICE NOT TO BE BALD

Asian athletics roster rises to 41 countries

MACAPAGAL

By Marc Anthony Reyes

FORTY one countries, including the new republic of East Timor, have confirmed their participation in the Asian track and field championships slated Sept. 20-23 at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex.

Regional giants like China, Japan, Korea, Saudi Arabia and Kazakhstan have assured organizers they're sending their strongest athletes to earn the right to compete in the money-rich Asian Grand Prix.

Philippine Amateur Track and Field Association president Go Teng Kok yesterday said he takes this as a good sign that the AAAs will be a resounding success as the country's previous staging of the event in 1973 and 1993.

"It means all the countries with active athletic associations are willing to compete," said Go. "We take it as a good sign and we are doing everything not to disappoint them."

At least 1,000 athletes and officials are expected with the Philippines hoping to at least better its performance 10 years ago when Elma Muros-Posadas captured the long jump bronze.

With President Arroyo instructing all government agencies to ensure the success of the meet, the country's athletics officials are optimistic they can measure up to the Asian standards despite holding the competition at the 70-year-old Rizal track and field oval.

Philippine Sports Commission chair Eric Buhain said the event would serve as a preview of the 2005 Southeast Asian Games which the country will stage in Manila.

"Imagine the Asian championships later this month and then you multiply its range and scope by 40 times when we host the 2005 SEA Games," said Buhain.

The AAA congress will precede the championships on Sept. 19 where the issue of increasing Asian slots to the International Athletics Federation council will be discussed.

Only four member-nations have yet to signify intention of joining the prestigious track meet—Afghanistan, North Korea, Cambodia and Yemen.

SPORTSWATCH

Valley hosts PSC-PSA Cup today

THE PHILIPPINE Sports Commission, in cooperation with the Philippine Sportswriters Association, will stage the 8th PSC-PSA Goodwill Golf Tournament today at the Valley Golf and Country Club in Antipolo City. PSC Chair Eric Buhain said the tournament hopes to solidify cooperation and partnership among stakeholders in the local sports community. Hosting the event for the first time, through its president Alexander Marquez, is the Valley Golf and Country Club. Participating in the event, backed by Alaska, Pepsi Cola, Rudy Project, Pan West, Bayview Park Hotel, Grand Boulevard Hotel, Fairways and Blue Waters, Manila Pavillion, Traders Hotel, Hotel Kimberly and Julant Pest Control, are officials from the PSC and sports editors and scribes from the PSA and PSC-POC Media Group.

Panitan booters need help

A FOOTBALL squad of 12-year-olds, ill-equipped and wearing second-hand playable shoes, won the hearts of their townmates when they returned to Panitan, Capiz, with a bronze medal from the Western Visayas Regional Athletic Association meet in Bago City, Negros Occidental, a few months ago. The team's mentors, Regor and Roger Dadivas and Barotac mate Bernie Cifra, said the passion and spirit of the young boys lifted them to the medal round. The boys of Panitan—now named the Panitan Football Club— are back in training and hope to compete in the Alaska Youth Cup of Tomas Lozano in Metro Manila in November. To do so, however, the kids need support of all sorts— from trip funding to shoes, balls, shin guards, uniforms and even socks. Footballers who wish to donate or contribute can do so by calling or texting the Panitan Football Club at 0919-206-1214 or e-mailing: regorfrancisd@yahoo.com

7-stag derby eliminations tonight

MORE than 70 matches are on tap in the second round eliminations of Roligon Mega Cockpit's "RAY Showdown 7-Stag Derby" at 6 p.m. today. "Aficionados can again expect seven to eight fights per hour of non-stop action," said derby hosts Roligon manager Danny Ty and Romero Yu. Out of 50 participants who competed last Tuesday, only five remained unbeaten with three victories each. They were Arnel Pimentel of Laguna (Miss Liberty), Erwin Diamante (Fresh Water), Boy Royo (BR-RLB), Noel Zoleta of Lucena City (Top of the Line) and lawyer Villarica (Villarica UMA). Meanwhile, the 1st LGBA 7–Stag Derby will be held at Roligon on Oct. 21, 23 and 25. For details, call 833-2275 and 833-1638.

Philta to stage junior championships

THE PHILTA (Philippine Table Tennis Association) will stage the Enervon Tablet-Futures Foundation International Junior Championships from Oct. 4 to 12 at the Ynares Socio-Cultural Sports Center (formerly Rizal Racquet in Pasig City. Players aged 13-18 years old this year may contact Loida Mallare (Philta office) at 5256434 or lawyer Al Agra (Futures Foundation) at 634-4199. Deadline of entry is tomorrow.

Ralf hospitalized after accident

ROME—Formula One driver Ralf Schumacher was hospitalized Tuesday after his BMW-Williams car flipped over when he spun off the track during testing at Monza's raceway, officials said. His team's Web site quoted Tim Newton, test team manager, as saying Schumacher was having "precautionary medical tests." Milan's San Raffaele Hospital, where the driver was taken, said doctors would make a statement about Schumacher's condition later on Tuesday night. **AP**

RACING TIPS

AT SLLP BY MR. 999

Race 1--1. C'est Moi 2. Rose and Toy 3. Sealed With A Kiss

Race 2--1. Sandata 2. Thundering Dunk 3. Super Dancer 4. Celebration 5. Captain Stone

Race 3--1. Respect the Ace 2. Earth Angel 3. Bring Home D Bacon 4. Bemedalled Ruler 5. Rose in Bloom

Race 4--1. You and Me 2. Kiss Me Quick 3. Habagat 4. Bullish View 5. Pana Panahon 6. Lady Be Gold

Race 5--1. Sagittarius 2. Cool Fashion 3. Sniper 4. Maximus 5. Mutya ng Nayon/Pangako Sa Yo

Race 6--1. Ilocos Princess 2. Fearless Vixen 3. JJ's Friend 4. Hurry King

Race 7--1. Betruetome 2. Divide and Rule 3. Naglalabyog 4. Gifted Angel 5. Aya's Star 6. Roadshow

Race 8--1. Are You Happy 2. Might and Power 3. Security Risk 4. Terrific 5. Priceless Gem.

Race 9--1. Tanging Ikaw 2. May's Magic 3. Kusang Loob 4. Blink & Wink 5. Golden Tale 6. Gold Marlin

Compiled by L. Manguiat

TENNIS: US Open 2003; 7 a.m. (r - 7 p.m.) and 11 p.m.; Star Sports -Witness singles quarterfinals action as well as the mixed doubles finals from Flushing Meadows.

BASKETBALL: NBA Summer League - Sonics vs Mavericks; 10:30 a.m. (r - 7 p.m.); Solar Sports - Seattle and Dallas take on each other in this western pre - season meeting.

NBA Greatest Games - Lakers vs Blazers, Game 4, 1977 Western Finals; 7:30 a.m.; Solar Sports - Los Angeles and Portland engage in a classic playoff encounter 26 years ago.

Undermanned Realtors turn back Alaska Aces

CHRIS Carrawell (right) of Alaska tries to slip past Nate James of Sta. Lucia in their PBA game last night.

AUGUST DELA CRUZ

By June Navarro

STA. Lucia Realty caught Alaska still basking in the glory of its recent victory in the Invitationals and posted an 82-78 win yesterday at the start of their Samsung-PBA Reinforced Conference campaign at the Philsports Arena.

Nate James and Francis Adriano came up with the crucial baskets in the stretch as the Realtors shrugged off their manpower disadvantage to surprise the Aces.

"*Ang hirap ng walang* (It's hard if you don't have enough) players. The only thing I hoped for before the game was that Alaska would still be in Cloud 9 after winning the Invitationals championship. It's a natural tendency when you win a title," said Sta. Lucia coach Alfrancis Chua.

Kenneth Duremdes and Dennis Espino were sidelined by injuries while Marlou Aquino hurt his knee in the third quarter, forcing Chua to rely mostly on James and his shock troopers.

Adriano didn't disappoint as the 6-foot-2 swingman filled the gap left by Duremdes by scoring 18 points, half of which came in the final 10 minutes.

James was just as impressive, firing 22 of his game-high 31 points in the first half that gave the Realtors a 48-33 cushion going into the third period. James actually scored 14 points in the first period, which was the total output of the Aces in that stretch.

Chris Carrawell and Ali Peek fueled the Aces' comeback while rookie Mike Cortez scored all his seven points halfway into the fourth quarter as they threatened at 68-70.

But James and Adriano combined to pull the Realtors together and complete the unlikely win for SLR.

Espino sprained his right ankle while Duremdes was recuperating from a nagging calf injury which the 1996 MVP sustained in the first conference. Duremdes would sit out the Realtors' next four games, Chua confirmed.

Artemius McClary towed Coca-Cola to a resounding 97-87 victory over Purefoods in the other game. The TJ Hotdogs dropped their 12 straight game dating back to the first conference.

Scores:

STA.LUCIA 82—James 31, Adriano 18, Mendoza 17, Aquino 6, Victolero 3, Ong 2, Francisco 2, Tan 2, Bat-og 1, Yu 0, Webb 0.

ALASKA 78—Peek 20, Carrawell 17, Cablay 8, Arigo 8, Cortez 7, Feihl 4, Noble 4, Allado 4, Duat 4,Padilla 2, Camaso 0.

Quarters: 29-14, 48-33, 63-52, 82-78.

Eagles tackle Tigers

GAMES TODAY (Araneta Coliseum)

11 a.m.—UE vs NU (jrs)
1:30 p.m.—UE vs NU (srs)
4 p.m.—Ateneo vs UST (srs)
6 p.m.—Ateneo vs UST (jrs)

By Dennis U. Eroa

NOW that they're in the Final Four, Ateneo's defending champion Eagles try to stay on top for good when they tackle the Santo Tomas Tigers today in the UAAP men's basketball championship at the Araneta Coliseum.

The pacesetting Eagles (9-3) are slightly favored when they collide at 4 p.m. with the Tigers, who at 4-6 are nursing faint hopes of still making it to the semifinals if they can sweep their last four games.

Earlier, University of the East tries to forge a tie with idle Far Eastern for second place when the Warriors collide with the resurgent but out-of-it National University Bulldogs at 1:30 p.m.

At 7-3, UE remains in contention for one of the top two slots at the end of the eliminations and a twice-to-beat advantage in the Final Four.

But the Warriors have to get past the late-blooming Bulldogs, who have claimed no less than the Eagles and the La Salle Archers as victims in their last two games.

Two-time MVP Rich Alvarez and Larry Fonacier will again spearhead the Eagles, who are out to repeat their 69-65 win over the Tigers in the first round and inch closer to the No. 1 spot at the end of the eliminations.

Coach Joel Banal, aiming to steer the Eagles to their second straight title, said UST cannot be taken for granted.

" We're not going to relax. Our job isn't finished yet," said Banal.

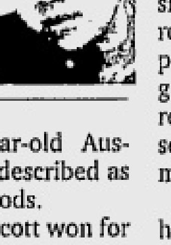
To score an upset, UST must get heady shows from Alwyn Espiritu and Rene de Guzman, who will be tasked to shackle Alvarez, who averages more than 11 rebounds per game.

Detroit gains East playoffs

AUBURN HILLS—Deanna Nolan scored 26 points as the Detroit Shock won a WNBA playoff series for the first time, beating the Cleveland Rockers 77-63 in Game 3 Tuesday night. The top-seeded Shock advance to the Eastern Conference finals against third-seeded Connecticut. Game 1 is in Uncasville on Friday night with the next two in the best-of-three series here Sunday and Monday. **AP**

'I've just seen a face'

SPECTATOR



Al S. Mendoza

FIRST, Mike Weir in the Masters. Then Jim Furyk in the US Open. Then Ben Curtis in the British Open. Then Shaun Micheel in the PGA Championship. And now, Adam Scott in the Deutsche Bank Championship.

They keep coming, new faces as winners of the big ones. And I remember the first line of a Beatles hit song, "I've just seen a face."

In winning the Deutsche Bank event on Tuesday by four shots over Rocco Mediate and beating world No. 1 Tiger Woods by nine strokes, Scott pocketed $900,000.

That's his biggest paycheck thus far.

That's one of the biggest purses on the PGA Tour this year, surpassed only—if I'm not mistaken—by the winners' haul in each of the three majors in America that each staked more than a million dollars.

"He's as good as you can get," Mediate said of Scott.

In winning, Scott blasted the lights out of, well, Massachusetts. It was at Massachusetts' TPC Boston course in Norton that Scott did his reprise of the Bee Gees Sixties hit "Massachusetts" that had the famous line, "And the lights all went out in Massachusetts…"

Ah, the Sixties. The best of the best in rock 'n' roll.

"At his (Scott) age…we've got our hands full," said Mediate, whose charge of four birdies in five holes propped up a final-day 6-under 65—good for second. Justin Leonard was third five shots back, Vijay Singh fourth another stroke back, and Tim Herron and Geoff Ogilvy co-fifth seven strokes adrift.

Scott is a 23-year-old Australian with a swing described as "eerily similar" to Woods.

Add the fact that Scott won for the fifth time holding the lead going into the fourth and final round, counting his four previous victories in the European Tour.

"I got away with it again," said Scott, finishing with a 5-under 66 for an astonishing 20-under 264. "Now it seems easy."

Uh-oh. Sounds very Woods-like?

But ranged against Woods' record, Scott's would still be miles away. Woods is 28-2 on the PGA Tour when he has at least a share of the 54-hole lead. A record, which, at this stage, appears too tough to crack any angle you look at it. And yes, for the record, Woods has 38 wins in a seven-year pro career, with eight majors to boot.

In the Deutsche Bank event, however, Woods never had a chance. The closest he got to within Scott was five strokes. He was tied for third at the back nine, but a double bogey on 12 finally dashed his championship bid. His closing two birdies gave him a 67 for 273, tying him for seventh with Steve Flesch, the lefty who almost won the 1995 Philippine Open in Davao's Apo.

Still, even as he was winless in his last five tournaments after four triumphs this season, Woods' finish at the Deutsche Bank event marked the fourth time that he was in the Top 7. A glowing record, any way you look at it.

Scott's victory gave him a two-year exemption on the PGA Tour. We'll then get to see him often now as Scott—I hope he does—rearranges his heavy schedule on the European Tour that had seen him score victories in Qatar, Sweden, Scotland and South Africa.

"There are only a few young players who have done very well in the past, and one is probably Sergio Garcia," said Scott. "And the other is Tiger, really young guys, winning over here a lot."

After describing his victory in Massachusetts as a "big relief," Scott's parting shot was: "It's very difficult to win in America."

Not really, if you think of Weir, Furyk and Micheel, nondescripts all, becoming first-time winners this year of golf's three majors in America.

***

FASTBREAK. I can understand the upbeat mood that Bobby Kanapi of Pilipinas Shell is in right now. "I hope our team's initial victory will gun up once more Shell's long-slumbering machine," he said. After winning its first PBA game last year, Shell took a bizarre nosedive and suffered a long losing spell. "I can only wish that that nightmare is over for us," said Bobby, Shell's team manager.

Asian athletics roster rises to 41 countries

MACAPAGAL

By Marc Anthony Reyes

FORTY one countries, including the new republic of East Timor, have confirmed their participation in the Asian track and field championships slated Sept. 20-23 at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex.

Regional giants like China, Japan, Korea, Saudi Arabia and Kazakhstan have assured organizers they're sending their strongest athletes to earn the right to compete in the money-rich Asian Grand Prix.

Philippine Amateur Track and Field Association president Go Teng Kok yesterday said he takes this as a good sign that the AAAs will be a resounding success as the country's previous staging of the event in 1973 and 1993.

"It means all the countries with active athletic associations are willing to compete," said Go. "We take it as a good sign and we are doing everything not to disappoint them."

At least 1,000 athletes and officials are expected with the Philippines hoping to at least better its performance 10 years ago when Elma Muros-Posadas captured the long jump bronze.

With President Arroyo instructing all government agencies to ensure the success of the meet, the country's athletics officials are optimistic they can measure up to the Asian standards despite holding the competition at the 70-year-old Rizal track and field oval.

Philippine Sports Commission chair Eric Buhain said the event would serve as a preview of the 2005 Southeast Asian Games which the country will stage in Manila.

"Imagine the Asian championships later this month and then you multiply its range and scope by 40 times when we host the 2005 SEA Games," said Buhain.

The AAA congress will precede the championships on Sept. 19 where the issue of increasing Asian slots to the International Athletics Federation council will be discussed.

Only four member-nations have yet to signify intention of joining the prestigious track meet—Afghanistan, North Korea, Cambodia and Yemen.

SPORTSWATCH

Valley hosts PSC-PSA Cup today

THE PHILIPPINE Sports Commission, in cooperation with the Philippine Sportswriters Association, will stage the 8th PSC-PSA Goodwill Golf Tournament today at the Valley Golf and Country Club in Antipolo City. PSC Chair Eric Buhain said the tournament hopes to solidify cooperation and partnership among stakeholders in the local sports community. Hosting the event for the first time, through its president Alexander Marquez, is the Valley Golf and Country Club. Participating in the event, backed by Alaska, Pepsi Cola, Rudy Project, Pan West, Bayview Park Hotel, Grand Boulevard Hotel, Fairways and Blue Waters, Manila Pavillion, Traders Hotel, Hotel Kimberly and Julant Pest Control, are officials from the PSC and sports editors and scribes from the PSA and PSC-POC Media Group.

Panitan booters need help

A FOOTBALL squad of 12-year-olds, ill-equipped and wearing second-hand playable shoes, won the hearts of their townmates when they returned to Panitan, Capiz, with a bronze medal from the Western Visayas Regional Athletic Association meet in Bago City, Negros Occidental, a few months ago. The team's mentors, Regor and Roger Dadivas and Barotac mate Bernie Cifra, said the passion and spirit of the young boys lifted them to the medal round. The boys of Panitan—now named the Panitan Football Club— are back in training and hope to compete in the Alaska Youth Cup of Tomas Lozano in Metro Manila in November. To do so, however, the kids need support of all sorts— from trip funding to shoes, balls, shin guards, uniforms and even socks. Footballers who wish to donate or contribute can do so by calling or texting the Panitan Football Club at 0919-206-1214 or e-mailing: regorfrancisd@yahoo.com

7-stag derby eliminations tonight

MORE than 70 matches are on tap in the second round eliminations of Roligon Mega Cockpit's "RAY Showdown 7-Stag Derby" at 6 p.m. today. "Aficionados can again expect seven to eight fights per hour of non-stop action," said derby hosts Roligon manager Danny Ty and Romero Yu. Out of 50 participants who competed last Tuesday, only five remained unbeaten with three victories each. They were Arnel Pimentel of Laguna (Miss Liberty), Erwin Diamante (Fresh Water), Boy Royo (BR-RLB), Noel Zoleta of Lucena City (Top of the Line) and lawyer Villarica (Villarica UMA). Meanwhile, the 1st LGBA 7–Stag Derby will be held at Roligon on Oct. 21, 23 and 25. For details, call 833-2275 and 833-1638.

Philta to stage junior championships

THE PHILTA (Philippine Table Tennis Association) will stage the Enervon Tablet-Futures Foundation International Junior Championships from Oct. 4 to 12 at the Ynares Socio-Cultural Sports Center (formerly Rizal Racquet in Pasig City. Players aged 13-18 years old this year may contact Loida Mallare (Philta office) at 5256434 or lawyer Al Agra (Futures Foundation) at 634-4199. Deadline of entry is tomorrow.

Ralf hospitalized after accident

ROME—Formula One driver Ralf Schumacher was hospitalized Tuesday after his BMW-Williams car flipped over when he spun off the track during testing at Monza's raceway, officials said. His team's Web site quoted Tim Newton, test team manager, as saying Schumacher was having "precautionary medical tests." Milan's San Raffaele Hospital, where the driver was taken, said doctors would make a statement about Schumacher's condition later on Tuesday night. **AP**

RACING TIPS

AT SLLP BY MR. 999

Race 1--1. C'est Moi 2. Rose and Toy 3. Sealed With A Kiss

Race 2--1. Sandata 2. Thundering Dunk 3. Super Dancer 4. Celebration 5. Captain Stone

Race 3--1. Respect the Ace 2. Earth Angel 3. Bring Home D Bacon 4. Bemedalled Ruler 5. Rose in Bloom

Race 4--1. You and Me 2. Kiss Me Quick 3. Habagat 4. Bullish View 5. Pana Panahon 6. Lady Be Gold

Race 5--1. Sagittarius 2. Cool Fashion 3. Sniper 4. Maximus 5. Mutya ng Nayon/Pangako Sa Yo

Race 6--1. Ilocos Princess 2. Fearless Vixen 3. JJ's Friend 4. Hurry King

Race 7--1. Betruetome 2. Divide and Rule 3. Naglalabyog 4. Gifted Angel 5. Aya's Star 6. Roadshow

Race 8--1. Are You Happy 2. Might and Power 3. Security Risk 4. Terrific 5. Priceless Gem:

Race 9--1. Tanging Ikaw 2. May's Magic 3. Kusang Loob 4. Blink & Wink 5. Golden Tale 6. Gold Marlin

---

SPORTS TV

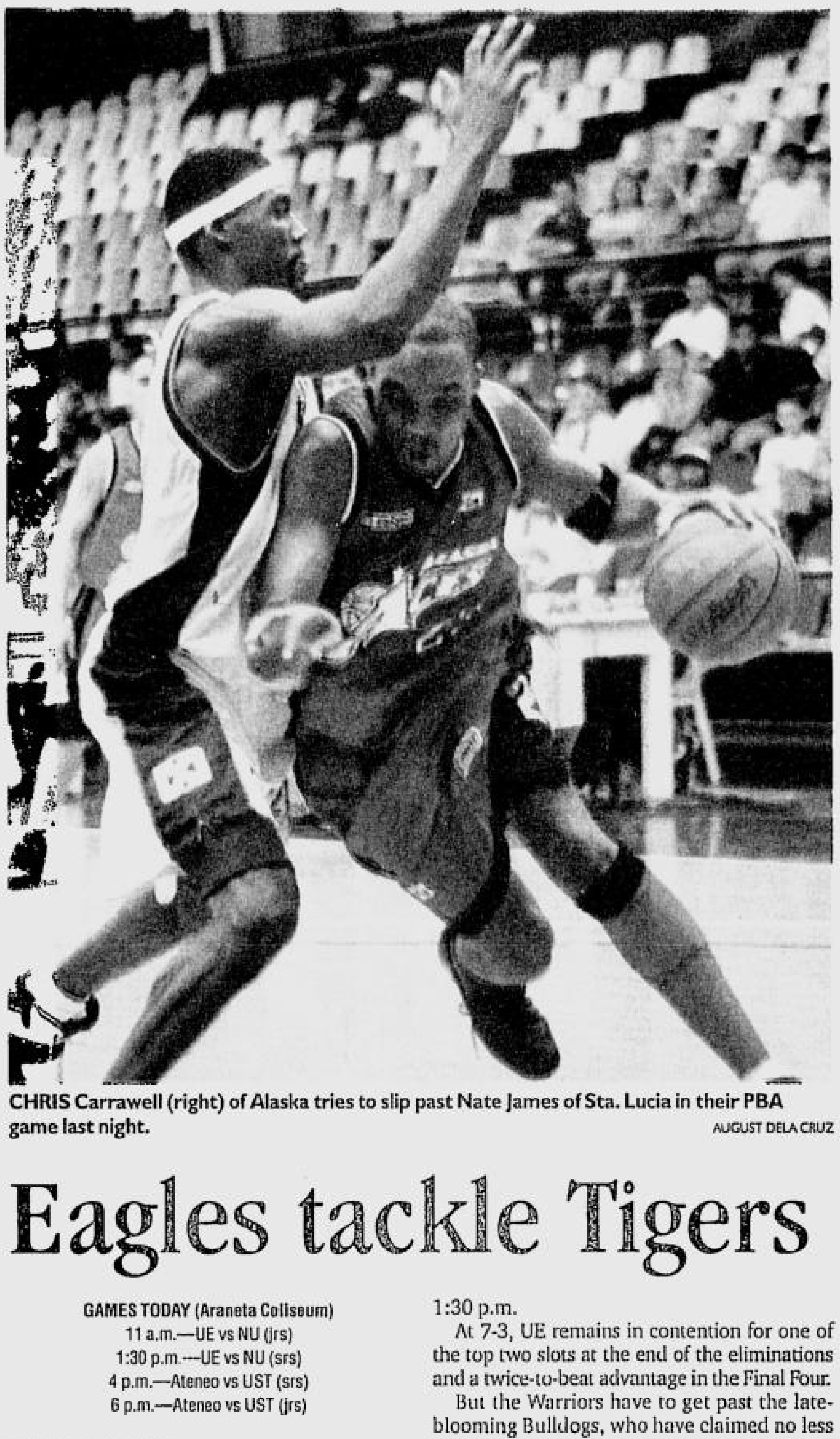
Compiled by L. Manguiat

TENNIS: US Open 2003; 7 a.m. (r - 7 p.m.) and 11 p.m.; Star Sports -Witness singles quarterfinals action as well as the mixed doubles finals from Flushing Meadows.

BASKETBALL: NBA Summer League - Sonics vs Mavericks; 10:30 a.m. (r - 7 p.m.); Solar Sports - Seattle and Dallas take on each other in this western pre - season meeting.

NBA Greatest Games - Lakers vs Blazers, Game 4, 1977 Western Finals; 7:30 a.m.; Solar Sports - Los Angeles and Portland engage in a classic playoff encounter 26 years ago.

Undermanned Realtors turn back Alaska Aces


CHRIS Carrawell (right) of Alaska tries to slip past Nate James of Sta. Lucia in their PBA game last night.
AUGUST DELA CRUZ

By June Navarro

STA. Lucia Realty caught Alaska still basking in the glory of its recent victory in the Invitationals and posted an 82-78 win yesterday at the start of their Samsung-PBA Reinforced Conference campaign at the Philsports Arena.

Nate James and Francis Adriano came up with the crucial baskets in the stretch as the Realtors shrugged off their manpower disadvantage to surprise the Aces.

"*Ang hirap ng walang* (It's hard if you don't have enough) players. The only thing I hoped for before the game was that Alaska would still be in Cloud 9 after winning the Invitationals championship. It's a natural tendency when you win a title," said Sta. Lucia coach Alfrancis Chua.

Kenneth Duremdes and Dennis Espino were sidelined by injuries while Marlou Aquino hurt his knee in the third quarter, forcing Chua to rely mostly on James and his shock troopers.

Adriano didn't disappoint as the 6-foot-2 swingman filled the gap left by Duremdes by scoring 18 points, half of which came in the final 10 minutes.

James was just as impressive, firing 22 of his game-high 31 points in the first half that gave the Realtors a 48-33 cushion going into the third period. James actually scored 14 points in the first period, which was the total output of the Aces in that stretch.

Chris Carrawell and Ali Peek fueled the Aces' comeback while rookie Mike Cortez scored all his seven points halfway into the fourth quarter as they threatened at 68-70.

But James and Adriano combined to pull the Realtors together and complete the unlikely win for SLR.

Espino sprained his right ankle while Duremdes was recuperating from a nagging calf injury which the 1996 MVP sustained in the first conference. Duremdes would sit out the Realtors' next four games, Chua confirmed.

Artemius McClary towed Coca-Cola to a resounding 97-87 victory over Purefoods in the other game. The TJ Hotdogs dropped their 12 straight game dating back to the first conference.

Scores:

STA.LUCIA 82—James 31, Adriano 18, Mendoza 17, Aquino 6, Victolero 3, Ong 2, Francisco 2, Tan 2, Bat-og 1, Yu 0, Webb 0.

ALASKA 78—Peek 20, Carrawell 17, Cablay 8, Arigo 8, Cortez 7, Feihl 4, Noble 4, Allado 4, Duat 4, Padilla 2, Camaso 0.

Quarters: 29-14, 48-33, 63-52, 82-78.

Eagles tackle Tigers

GAMES TODAY (Araneta Coliseum)
11 a.m.—UE vs NU (jrs)
1:30 p.m.—UE vs NU (srs)
4 p.m.—Ateneo vs UST (srs)
6 p.m.—Ateneo vs UST (jrs)

By Dennis U. Eroa

NOW that they're in the Final Four, Ateneo's defending champion Eagles try to stay on top for good when they tackle the Santo Tomas Tigers today in the UAAP men's basketball championship at the Araneta Coliseum.

The pacesetting Eagles (9-3) are slightly favored when they collide at 4 p.m. with the Tigers, who at 4-6 are nursing faint hopes of still making it to the semifinals if they can sweep their last four games.

Earlier, University of the East tries to forge a tie with idle Far Eastern for second place when the Warriors collide with the resurgent but out-of-it National University Bulldogs at 1:30 p.m.

At 7-3, UE remains in contention for one of the top two slots at the end of the eliminations and a twice-to-beat advantage in the Final Four.

But the Warriors have to get past the late-blooming Bulldogs, who have claimed no less than the Eagles and the La Salle Archers as victims in their last two games.

Two-time MVP Rich Alvarez and Larry Fonacier will again spearhead the Eagles, who are out to repeat their 69-65 win over the Tigers in the first round and inch closer to the No. 1 spot at the end of the eliminations.

Coach Joel Banal, aiming to steer the Eagles to their second straight title, said UST cannot be taken for granted.

" We're not going to relax. Our job isn't finished yet," said Banal.

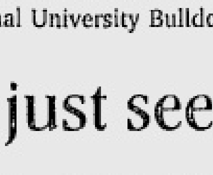
To score an upset, UST must get heady shows from Alwyn Espiritu and Rene de Guzman, who will be tasked to shackle Alvarez, who averages more than 11 rebounds per game.

Detroit gains East playoffs

AUBURN HILLS—Deanna Nolan scored 26 points as the Detroit Shock won a WNBA playoff series for the first time, beating the Cleveland Rockers 77-63 in Game 3 Tuesday night. The top-seeded Shock advance to the Eastern Conference finals against third-seeded Connecticut. Game 1 is in Uncasville on Friday night with the next two in the best-of-three series here Sunday and Monday. **AP**

'I've just seen a face'

SPECTATOR



Al S. Mendoza

FIRST, Mike Weir in the Masters. Then Jim Furyk in the US Open. Then Ben Curtis in the British Open. Then Shaun Micheel in the PGA Championship. And now, Adam Scott in the Deutsche Bank Championship.

They keep coming, new faces as winners of the big ones. And I remember the first line of a Beatles hit song, "I've just seen a face."

In winning the Deutsche Bank event on Tuesday by four shots over Rocco Mediate and beating world No. 1 Tiger Woods by nine strokes, Scott pocketed $900,000.

That's his biggest paycheck thus far.

That's one of the biggest purses on the PGA Tour this year, surpassed only—if I'm not mistaken—by the winners' haul in each of the three majors in America that each staked more than a million dollars.

"He's as good as you can get," Mediate said of Scott.

In winning, Scott blasted the lights out of, well, Massachusetts. It was at Massachusetts' TPC Boston course in Norton that Scott did his reprise of the Bee Gees Sixties hit "Massachusetts" that had the famous line, "And the lights all went out in Massachusetts…"

Ah, the Sixties. The best of the best in rock 'n' roll.

"At his (Scott) age…we've got our hands full," said Mediate, whose charge of four birdies in five holes propped up a final-day 6-under 65—good for second. Justin Leonard was third five shots back, Vijay Singh fourth another stroke back, and Tim Herron and Geoff Ogilvy co-fifth seven strokes adrift.

Scott is a 23-year-old Australian with a swing described as "eerily similar" to Woods.

Add the fact that Scott won for the fifth time holding the lead going into the fourth and final round, counting his four previous victories in the European Tour.

"I got away with it again," said Scott, finishing with a 5-under 66 for an astonishing 20-under 264. "Now it seems easy."

Uh-oh. Sounds very Woods-like?

But ranged against Woods' record, Scott's would still be miles away. Woods is 28-2 on the PGA Tour when he has at least a share of the 54-hole lead. A record, which, at this stage, appears too tough to crack any angle you look at it. And yes, for the record, Woods has 38 wins in a seven-year pro career, with eight majors to boot.

In the Deutsche Bank event, however, Woods never had a chance. The closest he got to within Scott was five strokes. He was tied for third at the back nine, but a double bogey on 12 finally dashed his championship bid. His closing two birdies gave him a 67 for 273, tying him for seventh with Steve Flesch, the lefty who almost won the 1995 Philippine Open in Davao's Apo.

Still, even as he was winless in his last five tournaments after four triumphs this season, Woods' finish at the Deutsche Bank event marked the fourth time that he was in the Top 7. A glowing record, any way you look at it.

Scott's victory gave him a two-year exemption on the PGA Tour. We'll then get to see him often now as Scott—I hope he does—rearranges his heavy schedule on the European Tour that had seen him score victories in Qatar, Sweden, Scotland and South Africa.

"There are only a few young players who have done very well in the past, and one is probably Sergio Garcia," said Scott. "And the other is Tiger, really young guys, winning over here a lot."

After describing his victory in Massachusetts as a "big relief," Scott's parting shot was: "It's very difficult to win in America."

Not really, if you think of Weir, Furyk and Micheel, nondescripts all, becoming first-time winners this year of golf's three majors in America.

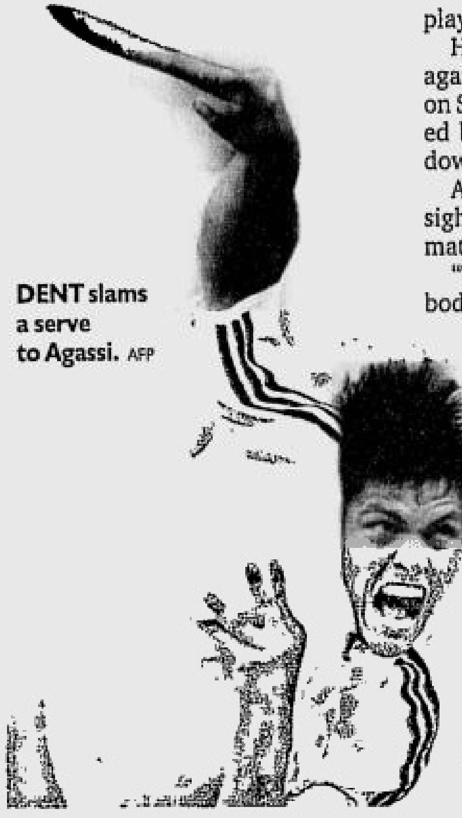
***

FASTBREAK. I can understand the upbeat mood that Bobby Kanapi of Pilipinas Shell is in right now. "I hope our team's initial victory will gun up once more Shell's long-slumbering machine," he said. After winning its first PBA game last year, Shell took a bizarre nosedive and suffered a long losing spell. "I can only wish that that nightmare is over for us," said Bobby, Shell's team manager.

Agassi hurdles rain, Dent to reach QF

More US Open matches pushed back

NEW YORK—After surviving two rain delays, Andre Agassi defeated unseeded American Taylor Dent, 6-7 (5), 6-4, 7-5, in their fourth-round match to advance to the quarterfinals Wednesday after Dent retired due to tightness in his lower right hamstring.



DENT slams a serve to Agassi. AFP

With the men's draw further behind, Open officials pushed back top-seeded Belgian Kim Clijsters' quarterfinal date with Frenchwoman Amelie Mauresmo, later suspending it for the day all together.

It's been quite a few days for Agassi.

First, the rain played against him, then it played in his favor. Agassi originally was going to have to play three straight days, but when his match was rained out Monday, it gave him an extra 24 hours to recover after playing both Saturday and Sunday.

He finished his third-round match against Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia on Sunday, a day after it was suspended by rain with Agassi up a set and down one game in the second.

Agassi called it "a mistake, an oversight in judgment" that his Saturday match was not finished later that day.

"These conditions affect everybody," he said Tuesday. "It's just a question of trying to get the most out of yourself. A lot of years of experience, but it's still difficult to do."

Only three matches have been completed in three days. Several were in progress late Tuesday when the rain started again and play was officially halted for the night—just before 11 p.m. local time.

Agassi earned his 200th victory in Grand Slam play. If he wins the tournament, he'll tie Pete Sampras at 203 wins.

"To see him injured is outright disappointing for everybody," Agassi said of Dent. "It doesn't matter if it's my 200th or first match. That's not the way you want it to end."

The 22-year-old Dent said he aggravated his leg several days ago.

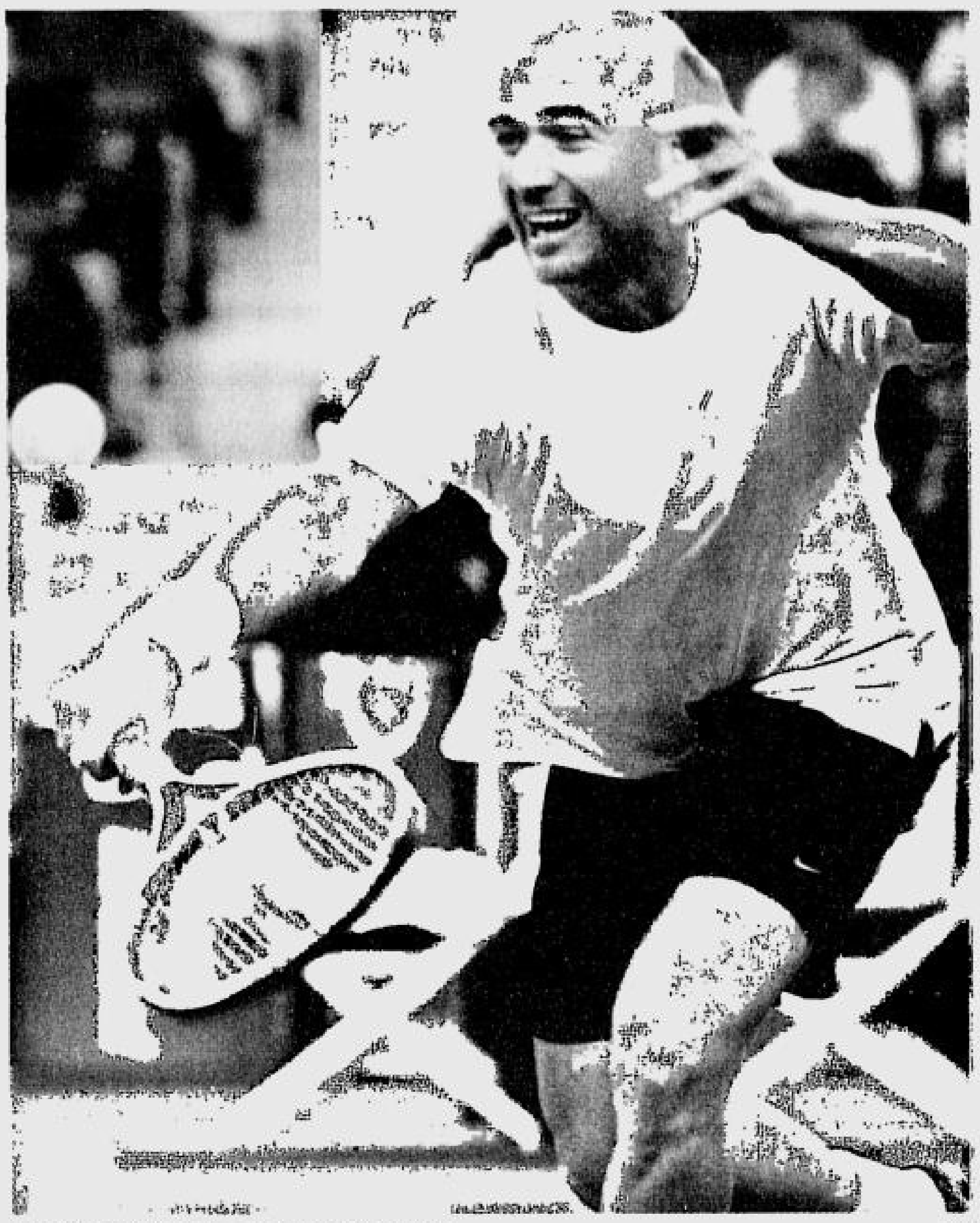
Italy's Francesca Schiavone and Ai Sugiyama of Japan were sent home Monday evening just before they were to start a first-set tiebreaker.

They got sent home midway through their match again Tuesday, with No. 15 Sugiyama leading the 29th-seeded Schiavone, 7-6 (5), 5-4.

No. 7 Anastasia Myskina of Russia led Mary Pierce of France, 7-6 (2), 2-0, in another match that was stopped in progress Monday and resumed for less than an hour Tuesday.

When play ended, French Open champion Juan Carlos Ferrero of Spain won the first set, 6-2, against America's Todd Martin, Argentine No. 5 Guillermo Coria led Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman, 6-2, 2-0, and 2001 Open champion Lleyton Hewitt of Australia trailed No. 11 Paradorn Srichaphan of Thailand, 4-3, on serve in the first set.

Clijsters and No. 5 Mauresmo were sent home at 5 p.m. Three other singles matches were pushed back until Wednesday: American No. 3 Lindsay Davenport vs. Argentine No. 24 Paola Suarez, No. 2 Roger Federer of Switzerland vs. No. 13 David Nalbandian of Argentina and Spanish No. 7 Carlos Moya vs. Moroccan No. 22 Younes El Aynaoui. Eighty-seven of the 95 matches on Tuesday's schedule—including all doubles, junior and senior draw matches—were moved. *AP*



AGASSI: 200th victory in Grand Slam play. AFP

Vietnam allots $1M for SEA Games rites

By Marc Anthony Reyes

PHILIPPINE Olympic Committee president Celso Dayrit yesterday reported that Vietnam has spent $1 million just for the opening and closing ceremonies of the Southeast Asian Games slated in Ho Chi Minh and Hanoi on Dec. 5 to 13.

Dayrit, who is also at the helm of the country's preparation for the 2005 SEAG, said the Vietnam organizers have commissioned a Belgian firm to ensure lavish ceremonies that would include laser light display and waterfalls right inside the stadium.

The POC chief, who just came back from Vietnam, also confirmed that the Vietnam organizers have decided to billet the athletes per sport and not per country. But they, according to Dayrit, made sure that the billeting venue is close to the competition site.

"There is an athlete's village in Hanoi and it will house the athletes in track and field, swimming, water polo and diving," said POC spokesperson Gus Villanueva. "The athletes' village is just close to the stadium to minimize transportation cost."

Dayrit, who also attended yesterday's SEAG technical commission meeting, also explained to the Basketball Association of the Philippines the rules regarding sponsor logos on the competition uniforms.

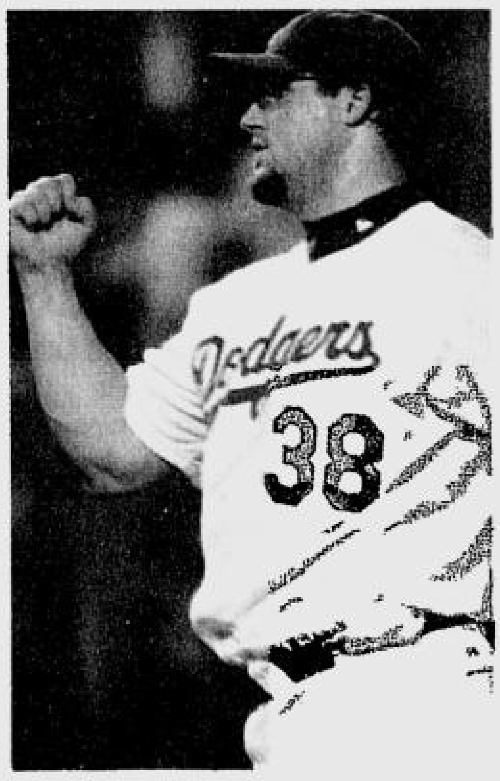
He said that International Olympic Committee rules that only the name of the country the team represents and the manufacturer's logo should appear on the uniforms. This, according to him, is in effect during IOC-sanctioned multilevel events like the SEA Games, Asian Games and the Olympics.

Gagne sets ML record as Dodgers trip Astros

LOS ANGELES—Eric Gagne set a major league record with his 55th consecutive save and Fred McGriff hit two homers to give him 491 for his career as Los Angeles beat Houston 4-1 Tuesday.

Gagne, in only his second season as a closer, preserved the victory for Wilson Alvarez by retiring the last four batters and broke the previous record set by Tom Gordon from April 19, 1998 to June 5, 1999, with the Boston Red Sox.

Gagne, whose only blown save this season came in the All-Star game, hasn't squandered a lead during the regular season since Aug. 26, 2002, when Arizona's David Dellucci hit a tying RBI double in the ninth inning.



GAGNE pumps his fist after striking out Houston Astros' Craig Biggio. AP

The right-hander leads the majors with 47 saves—the most ever to begin a season without a miss.

Alvarez (3-1) allowed a run and six hits in five innings. Tim Redding (8-14) lost his fifth straight start, allowing three runs—two earned—and five hits over 5 2-3 innings. He struck out four and walked none.

In San Francisco, Pedro Feliz hit a tie-breaking homer in the seventh inning, and Rich Aurilia went 4-for-4 on his 32nd birthday as San Francisco beat Colorado 2-1.

Barry Bonds got a standing ovation in his first home game since the death of his father, Bobby, on Aug. 23. An oversize replica of the circular "BB" black patches on the Giants' sleeves has been placed on the right-field wall at Pacific Bell Park.

Bonds responded to the ovation with a double off that wall in the second, earning another round of raucous cheers. He went 1-for-2 with two walks.

Aurilia matched his career high for hits and drove in Bonds with an RBI single as the Giants won for the 22nd time in their last 26 home games.

In San Diego, Trevor Hoffman pitched a perfect seventh inning in his first appearance of the season, and Phil Nevin and Mark Loretta homered as San Diego beat Arizona 6-3.

Brian Giles went 0-for-3 with a walk and one RBI in his home debut with the Padres a week after they acquired him from Pittsburgh.

Hoffman, fifth on the career list with 352 saves, was activated from the disabled list after missing the first five months following two off-season surgeries on his right shoulder.

He retired the side on eight pitches, none faster than 86 mph, and didn't throw his trademark changeup.

Ben Howard (1-0) earned his first major league win. Chris Capuano (1-3) took the loss. *AP*

Interschool taekwondo tilt gets going Sept. 6-7

THE 2003 Petron national interschool championships fires off on Sept. 6-7 with around 2,000 taekwondo jins from all over the country expected to see action at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium.

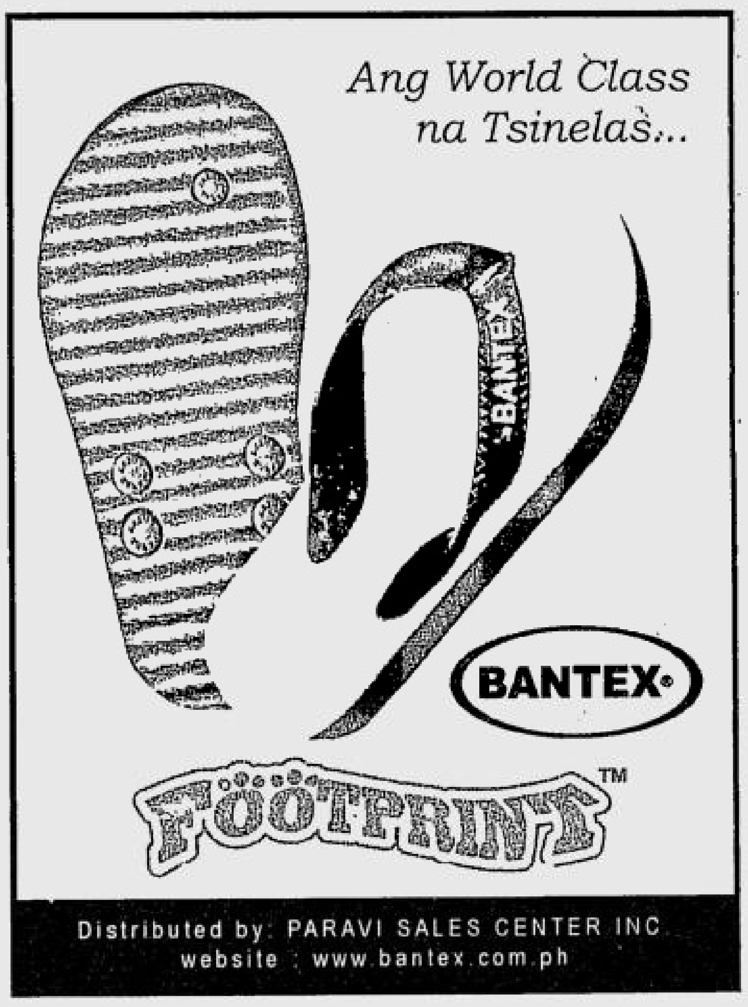
Philippine Taekwondo Association (PTA) president Robert N. Aventajado yesterday said that competition will be conducted in six divisions, namely, senior men and women, junior men and women and grade school boys and girls.

Schools affiliated with the PTA nationwide have signified their participation in the tourney which is also sponsored by Milo and the Philippine Sports Commission.

Among these are DLSU, UP, Ateneo, UST, FEU, San Beda, Don Bosco Makati and Mandaluyong, Xavier, De La Salle Zobel, Assumption College, ICA, Colegio San Agustin, Sienna, St. Theresa's College, LSQC, OBMC Greenhills, La Salle Greenhills, St. Scholastica's College, School of St. Anthony, Letran, Paco Catholic School, Live and Learn School, St. Mary's School, San Pedro College of Business Administration, University of Batangas, St. Bridget, St. Louis University of Baguio, Aquinas School, PMA, PMMA, Sienna Taytay, UP Integrated School and Poveda.

The tourney starts at 9 a.m.

FOOTBALL FIGHT
Sevilla's Javi Navarro (right) holds FC Barcelona's Luis Enrique by the neck in an altercation during their Spanish League soccer match at the Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona Tuesday. The match ended in a 1-1 draw. AFP


Ang World Class na Tsinelas...

Distributed by: PARAVI SALES CENTER INC.
website : www.bantex.com.ph

Want your copy delivered?

Subscribe now to the No.1 newspaper in the country and get straight news, in-depth analysis, provocative columns, and broad features everyday right at your doorstep.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

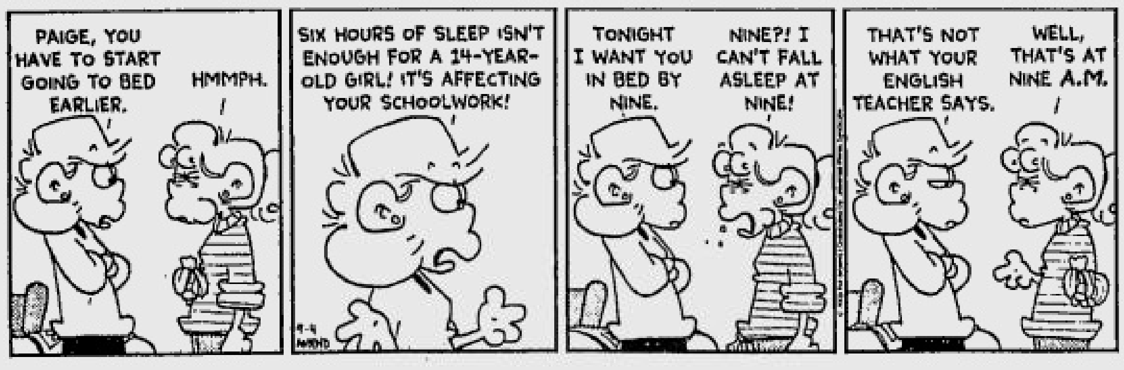
For Metro Manila home delivery, please call us at 528-01-83 • 528-02-13 • 528-01-86
fax reply coupon at: 528-02-34
or mail to:

Philippine Daily Inquirer c/o Circulation Division,
Ground Floor, Trinity Bldg., #636 Kalaw St., Manila
Yes, I would like to subscribe to the Philippine Daily Inquirer.
Please have my copy delivered to:

Name________
Address________
Tel. No.________
Signature________

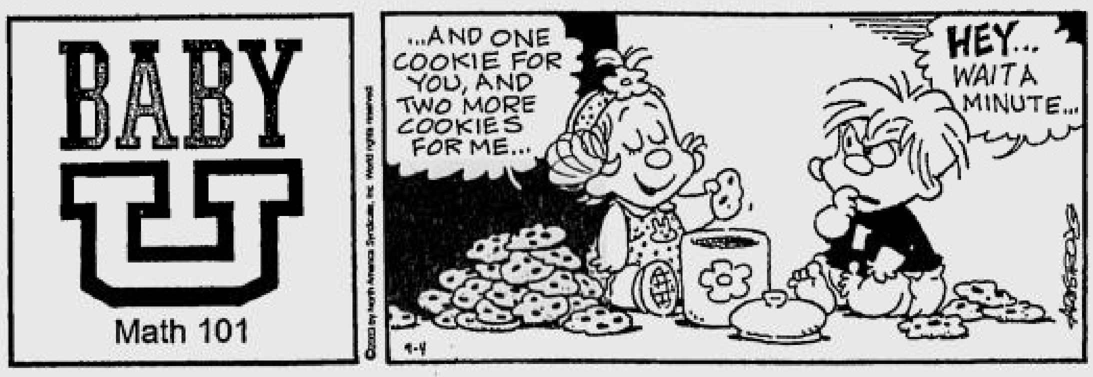
FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


PAIGE, YOU HAVE TO START GOING TO BED EARLIER.
HMMPH.
SIX HOURS OF SLEEP ISN'T ENOUGH FOR A 14-YEAR-OLD GIRL! IT'S AFFECTING YOUR SCHOOLWORK!
TONIGHT I WANT YOU IN BED BY NINE.
NINE?! I CAN'T FALL ASLEEP AT NINE!
THAT'S NOT WHAT YOUR ENGLISH TEACHER SAYS.
WELL, THAT'S AT NINE A.M.

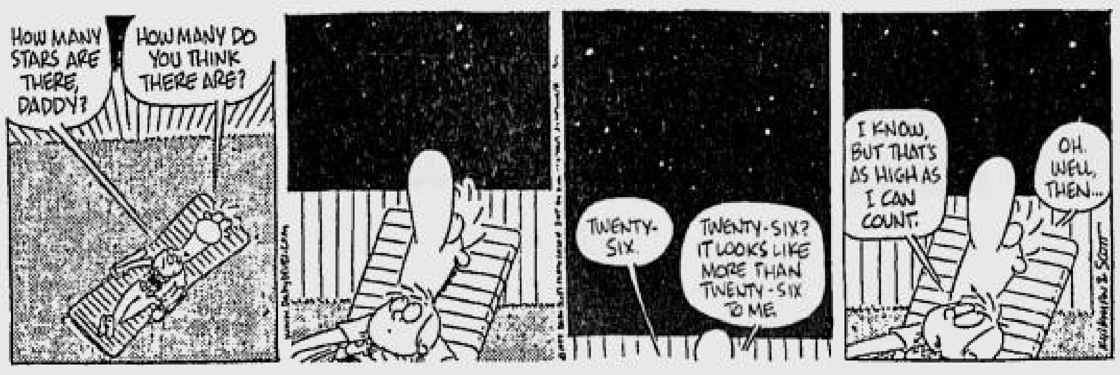
MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


BABY U
Math 101
...AND ONE COOKIE FOR YOU, AND TWO MORE COOKIES FOR ME...
HEY... WAIT A MINUTE...

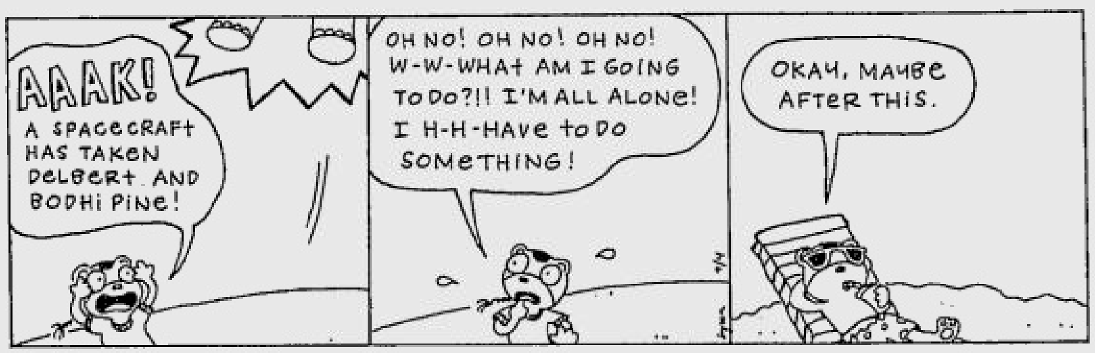
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


HOW MANY STARS ARE THERE, DADDY?
HOW MANY DO YOU THINK THERE ARE?
TWENTY-SIX.
TWENTY-SIX? IT LOOKS LIKE MORE THAN TWENTY-SIX TO ME.
I KNOW, BUT THAT'S AS HIGH AS I CAN COUNT.
OH. WELL, THEN...

ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


AAAK! A SPACECRAFT HAS TAKEN DELBERT AND BODHI PINE!
OH NO! OH NO! OH NO! W-W-WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?!! I'M ALL ALONE! I H-H-HAVE TO DO SOMETHING!
OKAY, MAYBE AFTER THIS.

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You are grounded, systematic and very capable. You want to build structures, both physical and abstract, in your life. Because of this, you search for the most efficient ways of doing things—and you find them! In the year ahead, you will let go of many things in order to make room for new situations to enter.
Birthdate of: Khandi Alexander, actress; Damon Wayans, comic/actor; Beyonce Knowles, singer.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): This is a good day to work hard to get better organized both at home and in your job. You have the energy and the optimism to tackle whatever you want to do today.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): This is a wonderful day to have fun and simply enjoy yourself. Delight in playful activities with children. Express your creative talents!

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Don't be afraid to act on positive ideas about how to make improvements at home or within your family structure. When good ideas strike, act fast!

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): A natural optimism pervades your day today. No matter what your circumstances are, you appreciate being alive. (It's curious how easily we can forget how precious life is.)

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Give serious thought to financial investments and fun ways to spend your money. However, wait until tomorrow to actually do any spending. You'll be glad you did.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): This can be a very pleasant and happy day for you. It's easy for you to get in touch with your open heart and the natural softness within you. When you can do this with yourself, you can do it with others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Spiritual awakenings occur to you today. You see that, in fact, the world is awake if you are.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): This is a great day to talk to groups, clubs and organizations or just to enjoy pleasant conversations with friends. You feel positive and open to everyone you meet.

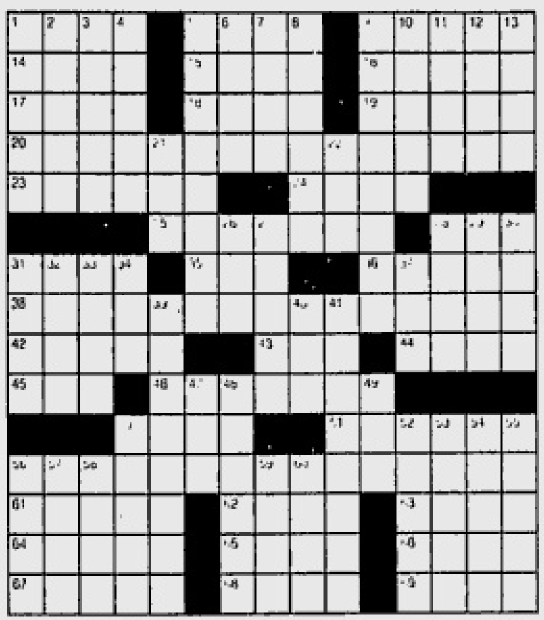
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Your enthusiasm for something is quite contagious now. You easily convince bosses, authority figures and co-workers to go along with your ideas.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Plans for travel, publishing and higher education look increasingly optimistic! Hope for the best, and it just might materialize. Why hope for anything less?

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): In some way, you stand to benefit from the wealth of others today. If someone offers a favor or a gift to you, accept it. To reject it would be offensive.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): You enjoy being with your partner or a close friend today. The closeness that you feel with others reflects the affection and comfort level you feel with yourself. It always works this way.

DAILY CROSSWORD



By Robert H. Wolfe
North Woodmere, NY
9/4/03

ACROSS
1 Look over
5 Price
9 Outcropping
14 Head light?
15 Song for a diva
16 Spelunker
17 ICU element
18 __ of Gilead
19 Seriously chubby
20 Start of quip
23 Detection device
24 Took off
25 Elegantly stylish
28 Small Eurasian viper
31 Vega's constellation
35 Brew in a bag
36 Usher's route
38 Part 2 of quip
42 Encounter
43 Knock lightly
44 Kind
45 Before, briefly
46 Hindered
50 A way away
51 Vagabond
56 End of quip
61 More qualified
62 Versifier
63 Bunsen burner's ancestor
64 Dominion
65 Prepare copy for publication
66 Come down in buckets
67 Units of force
68 "Damn Yankees" vamp
69 Free of fat

DOWN
1 Closes
2 Birchbark vessel
3 True up
4 Class writing
5 Nightclubs
6 Verbal
7 Missile shelter
8 Mexican menu item
9 Habitual violator
10 Customary practice
11 Don't __ do that again!
12 Fewer
13 Guitar ridge
21 Dress up
22 Banns word
26 Butterfly catcher
27 Discernment
28 Soot-covered
29 Stick or happy starter
30 Rose of baseball
31 Harp family member
32 "__ Show of Shows"
33 Cryptic character
34 Pierre's pal
37 Addams Family cousin
39 Distinctive outfits
40 Possessed
41 Light musical production
47 Player's piece
48 Push onward
49 Matriarch of a warren
50 One of the Astaires
52 Very skilled
53 Word before oil or mouth
54 Tedium
55 Prepare for war
56 Unit of length
57 Comply
58 __ Bator, Mongolia
59 Commotion
60 First name on the moon

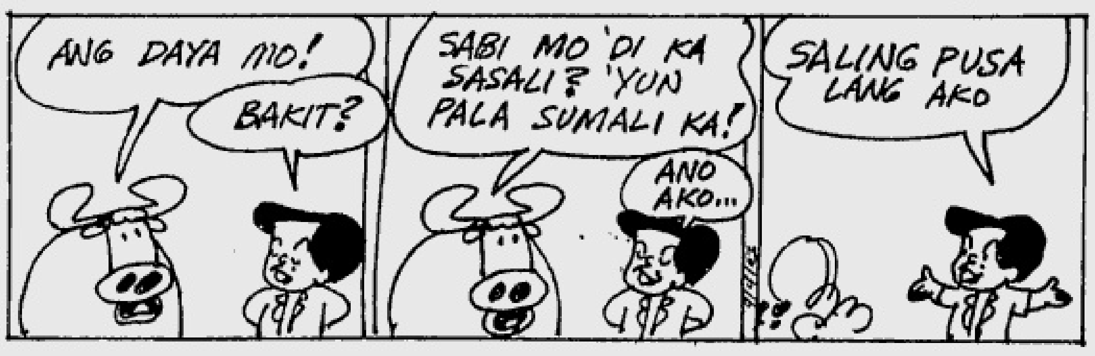
Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

S	P	A	S	■	M	U	M	S	■	U	N	B	A	R
W	A	T	T	■	A	B	E	T	■	T	E	R	S	E
A	U	T	O	■	Z	E	R	O	■	T	W	I	T	S
B	L	I	P	S	E	R	V	I	C	E	■	G	E	E
S	O	C	I	A	L	■	■	C	A	R	F	A	R	E
■	■	■	T	I	T	U	S	■	B	E	R	T	■	■
E	B	B	■	L	O	S	E	H	■	D	O	O	N	E
V	I	A	L	■	V	E	N	O	M	■	G	N	A	T
E	D	D	I	E	■	S	O	D	A	S	■	I	N	C
■	■	I	A	N	A	■	H	F	S	E	I	■	■	■
S	P	I	R	A	L	S	■	■	T	R	E	A	U	S
O	R	B	■	B	E	A	S	I	O	F	E	D	E	N
L	I	B	E	L	■	G	O	A	D	■	M	O	L	E
A	D	E	L	E	■	E	L	M	O	■	E	R	L	E
R	E	D	I	D	■	S	E	A	N	■	D	E	A	R

(C)2003 Tribune Media Services Inc
All rights reserved
9/3/03

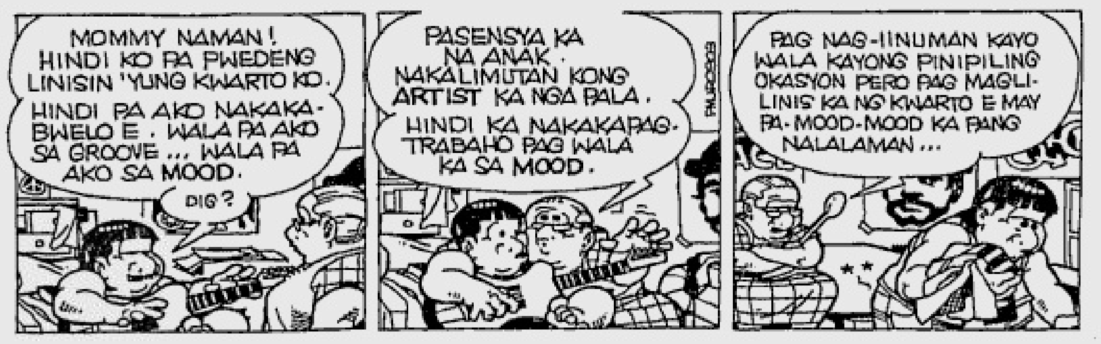
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


ANG DAYA MO!
BAKIT?
SABI MO 'DI KA SASALI? 'YUN PALA SUMALI KA!
ANO AKO...
SALING PUSA LANG AKO

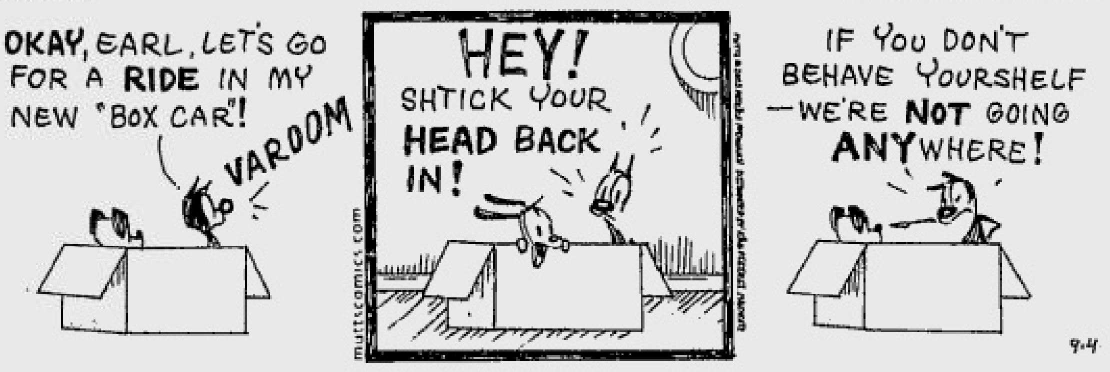
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


MOMMY NAMAN! HINDI KO PA PWEDENG LINISIN 'YUNG KWARTO KO.
HINDI PA AKO NAKAKA-BWELO E. WALA PA AKO SA GROOVE... WALA PA AKO SA MOOD.
DIG?
PASENSYA KA NA ANAK. NAKALIMUTAN KONG ARTIST KA NGA PALA.
HINDI KA NAKAKAPAG-TRABAHO PAG WALA KA SA MOOD.
PAG NAG-IINUMAN KAYO WALA KAYONG PINIPILING OKASYON PERO PAG MAGLI-LINIS KA NG KWARTO E MAY PA-MOOD-MOOD KA PANG NALALAMAN...

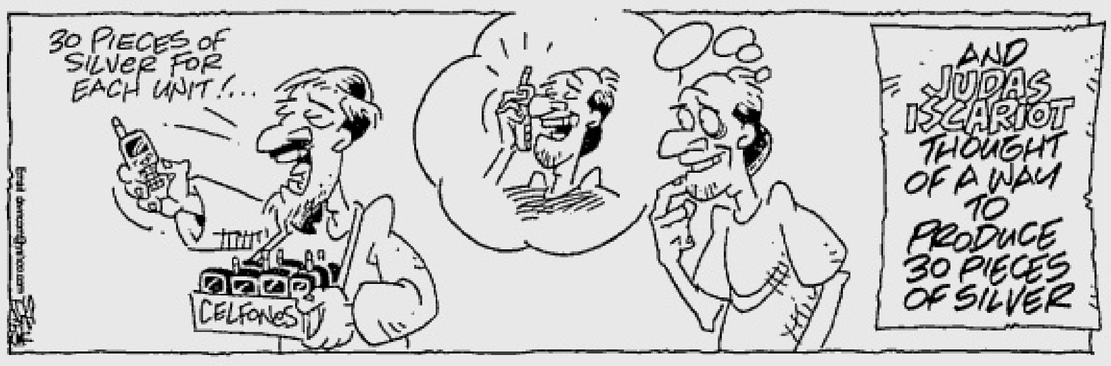
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


OKAY, EARL, LET'S GO FOR A RIDE IN MY NEW "BOX CAR"!
VAROOM
HEY! SHTICK YOUR HEAD BACK IN!
IF YOU DON'T BEHAVE YOURSHELF — WE'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE!
muttscomics.com
9-4

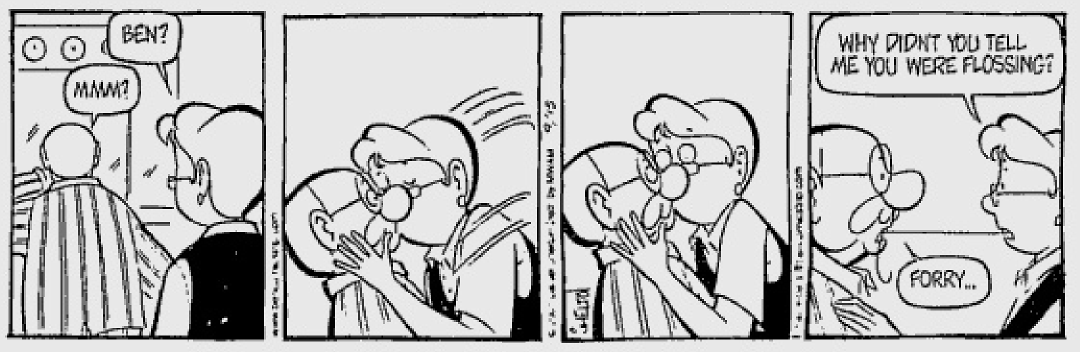
DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS


30 PIECES OF SILVER FOR EACH UNIT!...
CELFONES
AND JUDAS ISCARIOT THOUGHT OF A WAY TO PRODUCE 30 PIECES OF SILVER

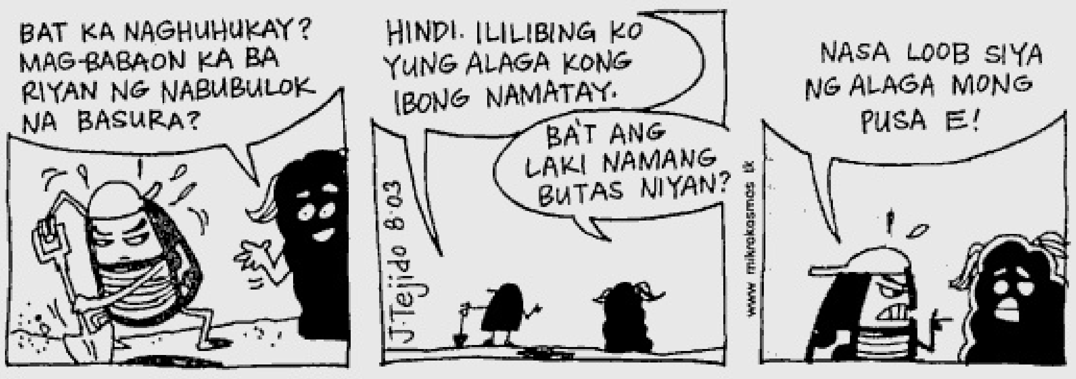
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


BEN?
MMM?
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME YOU WERE FLOSSING?
FORRY...

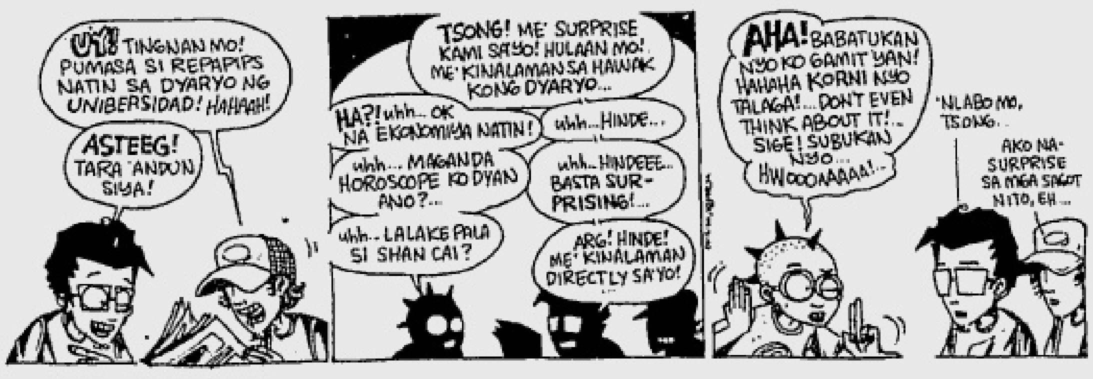
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


BAT KA NAGHUHUKAY? MAG-BABAON KA BA RIYAN NG NABUBULOK NA BASURA?
HINDI. ILILIBING KO YUNG ALAGA KONG IBONG NAMATAY.
BA'T ANG LAKI NAMANG BUTAS NIYAN?
NASA LOOB SIYA NG ALAGA MONG PUSA E!
J. Tejido 8.03
www.mikrokosmos.tk

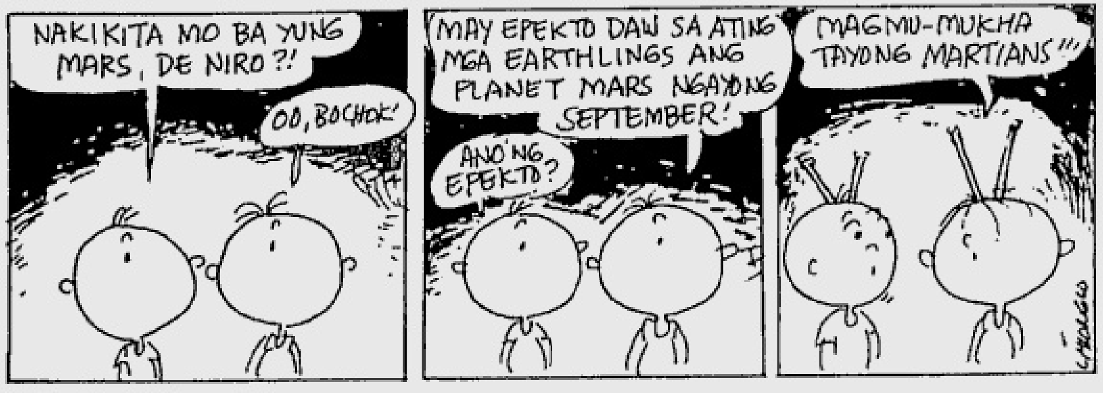
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


UY! TINGNAN MO! PUMASA SI REPAPIPS NATIN SA DYARYO NG UNIBERSIDAD! HAHAAH!
ASTEEG! TARA 'ANDUN SIYA!
TSONG! ME' SURPRISE KAMI SAYO! HULAAN MO! ME' KINALAMAN SA HAWAK KONG DYARYO...
HA?! uhh... OK NA EKONOMIYA NATIN!
uhh... HINDE...
uhh... MAGANDA HOROSCOPE KO DYAN ANO?...
uhh... HINDEEE... BASTA SUR-PRISING!...
uhh... LALAKE PALA SI SHAN CAI?
ARG! HINDE! ME' KINALAMAN DIRECTLY SAYO!
AHA! BABATUKAN NYO KO GAMIT YAN! HAHAHA KORNI NYO TALAGA!... DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT!... SIGE! SUBUKAN NYO... HWOOOAAAA!...
'NLABO MO, TSONG...
AKO NA-SURPRISE SA MGA SAGOT NITO, EH...

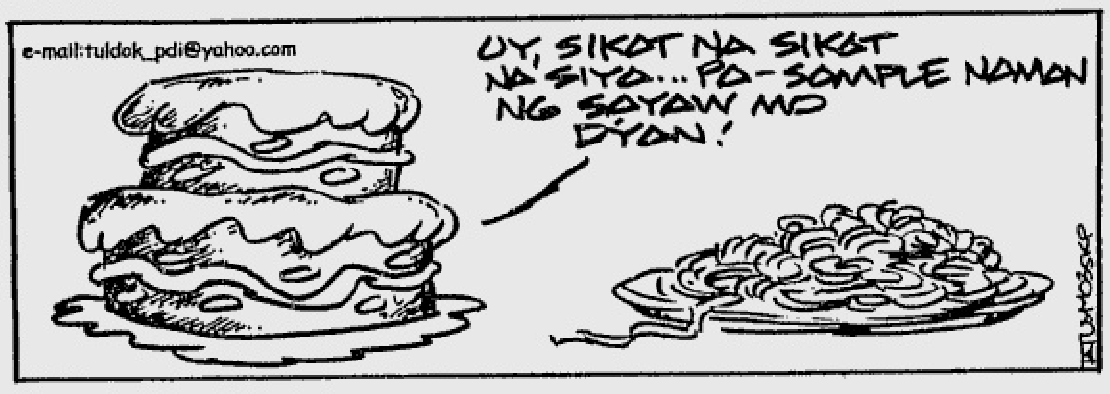
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


NAKIKITA MO BA YUNG MARS, DE NIRO?!
OO, BOCHOK!
MAY EPEKTO DAW SA ATING MGA EARTHLINGS ANG PLANET MARS NGAYONG SEPTEMBER!
ANO'NG EPEKTO?
MAGMU-MUKHA TAYONG MARTIANS!

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


e-mail:tuldok_pdi@yahoo.com
UY, SIKAT NA SIKAT NA SIYA... PA-SAMPLE NAMAN NG SAYAW MO D'YAN!

Tours, Leisure & Chow

cmadamba@inquirer.com.ph
897-8808 local 209 and 238

Alden Joshua Cedo, Graphics Design
Aries Espinosa, Editor

Crazy for crab returns at Emperor Court

NEW WORLD Renaissance Hotel's premiere Cantonese restaurant Emperor Court presents "Crazy for Crab Returns". Due to the overwhelming success of the previous Crazy for Crab promotion, the fine Cantonese cuisine restaurant brings back the well-loved crustacean for the months of September and October. A special *a la carte* menu tempts diners with fabulous crab creations prepared by Chinese executive chef Ken Chiu and his brigade of expert chefs. Sample Deep Fried Crispy Crab Claw Stuffed with Shrimp Paste, Deep Fried Crab Meat with Seafood and Mongo Rolls, Spicy Stew Crab "Cheng Du" Style, Steamed Crab with Glutinous Rice in Bamboo Basket, Steamed Female Crab in "Shaoxing" Wine, among other mouth-watering selections. Other succulent crab dishes are also included in Emperor Court's daily lunch and dinner buffet selections. Furthermore, take advantage of Emperor Court's Perfect 10 Deal wherein a minimum group of 10 diners get a generous 10-percent discount on their bill. Emperor Court is open daily from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. for lunch and 6 to 10 p.m. for dinner. For more information and reservations, call 811-6888 ext. 3338

Other succulent crab dishes are also included in Emperor Court's daily lunch and dinner buffet selections

Asean hip-hop pass for Intra-Asean travel launched

THE ASEAN Hip-Hop Pass promotion will be from Aug. 1 to Oct. 31. The Pass aims to promote intra-Asean tourism traffic especially during the off-peak period from August to October.

The Pass is valid for sale from Aug. 1 to Oct. 25 and can only be purchased in Asean. Travel can commence on Aug. 1 but must be completed by Oct. 31.

This Pass comprises two components, an Air Pass with flight coupons priced at $99 (excluding taxes) per flight sector and a Hotel Pass which comprises of 3*, 4* and 5* participating Asean hotels priced from $35, $50 and $70 per room per night respectively.

The Asean airlines participating in this promotion are Garuda Airlines, Malaysia Airlines, Philippine Airlines, Royal Brunei Airlines, Singapore Airlines, SilkAir, Thai Airways and Vietnam Airlines.

Various hotels from Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand are also participating in this Asean Hip-Hop Pass promotion. Only holders of the Asean Air Pass can purchase the Hotel Pass.

The Air Pass can be bought at the above-mentioned participating Asean airlines and bona fide Iata travel agents, while the Hotel Pass can be booked at a bona fide Iata travel agent.

For more information and bookings, call any of the participating Asean carriers or your local bona fide Iata travel agent. Happy traveling!

Meeting with a view

TAGAYTAY City is known as the grand viewing deck of the smallest volcano in the world, Taal Volcano. Throughout the years, the city has also become the newest meetings and conventions destination, preferred for its ideal location and convenient accessibility. With this, Taal Vista Hotel creates the "Board of Directors Package" to offer convention and meeting organizers the flexibility in holding company events in an ideal setting.

The "Board of Directors Package" includes overnight stay in a Superior room, set lunch and set dinner for attendees less than 30 persons (a Buffet lunch and dinner is prepared for attendees of more that 30 persons), AM and PM snacks, and breakfast. Conference amenities include whole day use of the meeting room, complimentary use of the audio equipment, overhead projector, whiteboard and flipchart, use of VCD, paper and pencils, free flowing coffee and tea throughout the duration of the function, and free candy mints. A complimentary hospitality room will also be provided for organizing small cocktails to entertain guests and colleagues. This limited offer is priced at only P4,500 net/ person (single occupancy) and P2,600 net/person (twin sharing occupancy) and is valid until Dec. 15.

Taal Vista Hotel has always been the premier hotel in Tagaytay, because of its unmatched panorama of Taal Volcano and Taal Lake. The hotel's amenities and facilities, and a team of staff trained and managed by the FilBarcelo Group, visitors can expect to experience a renewed charm, hospitality and efficient service from Taal Vista Hotel.

For inquiries and reservations on the "Board of Directors Package," call its Manila sales office at 830-2373 and 867-1159. Visit its website at www.barcelo-asia.com.

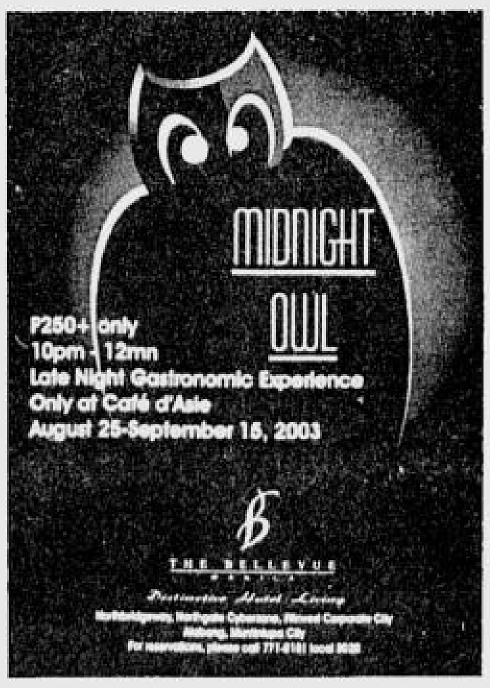
Midnights at The Bellevue Hotel

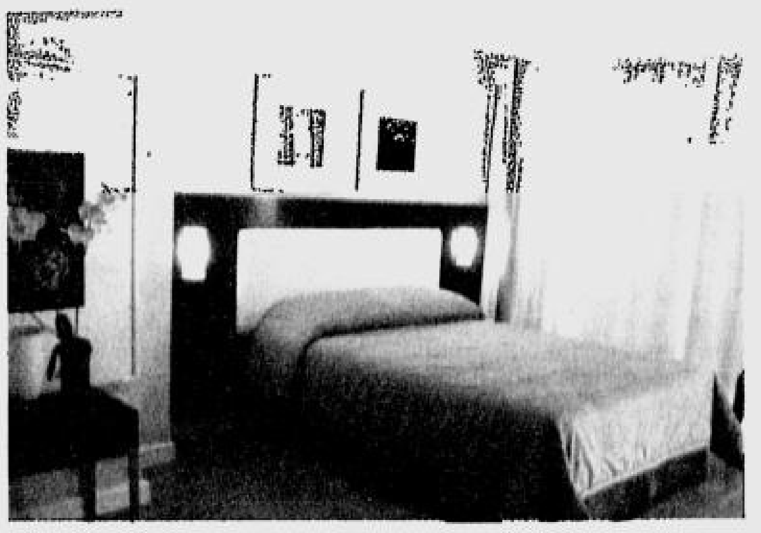
NIGHT persons have another reason to celebrate with The Bellevue Hotel's Midnight Owl Promo. The Bellevue, the premier social and business destination South of Metro Manila, offers an exciting late-night gastronomic experience from Aug. 25 to Sept. 15 for twilight revelers.

From 10 p.m. to 12 midnight, a bountiful buffet awaits customers at the hotel's main dining area, the Café D' Asie Asian Specialty Restaurant. The reasonably priced buffet includes a delicious meal of flavorsome soup, garden-fresh salad, pasta with choices of savory sauces, succulent carving, tempting desserts plus other mouth-watering dishes only for P250+.

Now the dining destination of the South, The Bellevue offers not only tasty food preparations but a pleasant dining ambience. Lush plants and a universal fountain have life-giving qualities, as earth-toned motifs lend the place a warm and home-like atmosphere.

The Bellevue Hotel —Alabang's best kept secret—is the first full-service business hotel South of Metro Manila. The Bellevue is an example of elegance, class, high standards of service, superb food and the most modern amenities. For inquiries, call 771-8181.





ASTORIA PLAZA'S SUITE
Astoria Plaza's spacious and stylish 2-bedroom suites make a perfect venue for long weekend getaways. Avail yourself of Astoria's 2+1 promo. Stay for two nights and get the third night free.

Mandarin Oriental welcomes the autumn moon

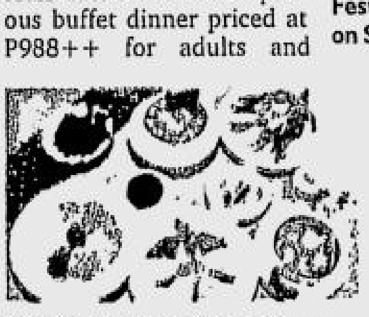
MANDARIN Oriental, Manila, host of grand cultural traditions, once again recreates the splendor and pageantry of the upcoming Autumn Moon Festival, a significant holiday observed by Chinese communities all over the world on the 15th day of the eighth month of the lunar calendar. The occasion is generally regarded as a time for family get-togethers, and for lovers and couples to renew their commitment to each other.

Under the direction of renowned Feng Shui Master Joseph Chau, who is at the forefront of Mandarin Oriental Manila's propitious Chinese celebrations including the much-awaited grand lunar year welcome, the festivities kick off with a "Sheung Yuet" (welcoming the moon) celebration at the pool side on the eve of the Autumn Moon on Sept. 10, Wednesday, at 6:30 p.m. The evening is marked by a "Paii Shan" ceremony at 7:30 p.m., where Master Chau imparts positive energy to attendees and their various lucky charms such as Buddha statues and coins. Fine musical performances evoking the evening's theme and the legend of the Autumn Moon by the Shin Yih cultural group will also regale revelers. On that auspicious night, Tin Hau, the hotel's premier Chinese restaurant, fetes diners with a sumptuous buffet dinner priced at P988++ for adults and P588++ for children. Added attractions for the night are the wheel of fortune, which guests can spin to enhance their luck; and colorful lanterns that set the perfect mid-autumn ambience. Special prizes await guests who bring the prettiest lanterns of the evening.

Moon cakes, a main feature of the Autumn Moon Festival will be available from Sept. 1 to 10 at Tin Hau, the lobby booth where festival hampers are also for sale. These delicious moon cakes are sold in singles, boxes of four, and eight.

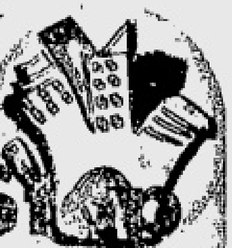
For further details and reservations, call Mandarin Oriental, Manila at 750-8888 extensions 2422/ 2424.

WORLD-RENOWNED geomancer Joseph Chau leads the Autumn Moon Festival in Mandarin Oriental, Manila on Sept. 10.



FROM Sept. 4 to 14, Thailand's Southern Cuisine is highlighted in the second of a three-part series of Flavors of Thailand Regional Food Fare at Benjarong Thai Restaurant of Dusit Hotel Nikko. Available *ala carte* for lunch and dinner are: Phad sa Tao Gung (mixed vegetables with pork and prawns), Gaeng Liang Sung (prawns and vegetables in turmeric hot soup), Kanom Jeen NamyaPat Tai (southern Thai noodles with spicy fish soup), Gaeng Tai Pla (spicy red curry with pickled fish casing) and Khao Yum Pak Tai (steamed rice salad). For queries and reservations, call 867-3333 extension 3351-3353.

Where to Stay Where to GO



A weekly directory of the country's best establishments

New World Renaissance Hotel
Esperanza St. cor. makati Ave., Makati City
Tel. 811-6888/Fax. 811-6777
www.marriott.com

Makati Shangri-La Hotel
Ayala Ave. cor. Makati Ave., Makati City
Tel. 813-8888/ Fax 813-5499
www.shangri-la.com

Dusit Hotel Nikko
Ayala Center, 1223 Makati City Phil.
Tel. 867-3333 Email: dusitmnl@dusit.com
http://manila.dusit.com

Barcelo Hotels and Resorts
4/F Adamson Centre, 121 LP Leviste St.
Salcedo Village, Makati
Tel. (02) 867-1159/ fax (02) 867-1185
www.barcelo-asia.com

Mactan Island Resort
Punta Engano Road, Lapu Lapu Cebu
Tel. (632) 231-0288/Fax (632) 231-1688
www.shangri-la.com

Intercontinental Manila
1 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
Tel 815-9711
www.intercontinental.com

The Marco Polo
CM Recto St. Davao City 8000
Tel. (082) 221-0888/fax (082) 225-0111
www.marcopolohotels.com

Hotel Veniz
No. 1 Abanao St. Baguio City
Tel. (074) 446-0700/fax (074) 446-0704

Hotel Supreme
113 Magsaysay Ave., Baguio City
Tel. (074) 443-2011 to 18 / Fax. (074) 442-2855

Skyrise Hotel
18 Dominican Road, Baguio City
Tel (074) 445-6834 to 36 /fax (074) 443-3897

The Peninsula Manila Hotel
Cor. Ayala Ave. & Makati Ave., Makati City
Tel. 810-3456/ Fax 815-4825

Mandarin Oriental Manila
Paseo de Roxas cor. Makati Ave. Makati City
Tel. 750-8888
www.mandarin-oriental.com

The Bellevue Manila
North Bridgeway, Northgate
Alabang, Muntinlupa
Tel. (632) 771-8181/ fax (632) 771-8282
www.thebellevue.com.ph

Waterfront Hotel Lahug
1 Salinas Drive, Lahug Cebu City
Tel. (6332) 232-6888/Fax (6332)232-6880
www.waterfronthotels.net

Waterfront Hotel Mactan
1 Airport Road, Lapu Lapu City, 6015
Tel. (6332) 340-4888/fax (6332) 340-5693
www.waterfronthotels.net

Royal Mandaya Hotel
J. Palma Gil St. Davao City
Tel. (082) 225-8888/fax (082) 225-1888

Camp John Hay Manor
Loakan Road, Baguio City
Tel. (074) 446-0231 to 50

City Travel Hotel
15 Kisad Road, Baguio City
Tel. (074) 445-0456 / Fax (074) 445-0457

Cooyeesan Hotel Plaza
Naguilian cor. Asin Road, Baguio City
Tel. (074) 447-8888 to 93/ (074) 447-8895 to 98
Fax. (074) 447-0494

Golden Pine Hotel and Restaurant
Intersection of Carino St. and Legarda Road, Baguio City
Tel. (074)444-9965 to 72/740-8975/
Fax. (074) 446-0704

Taal Vista Hotel
Aguinaldo Highway, Tagaytay City
Tel. (046) 413-1000/fax. (046) 413-1225

For Feedback and inquiries, call
899-4426 or 897-8808 loc 209

From spoof to poof?

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

LAST Sunday night, we tuned in to ABC-5 to catch its "Ispup" show, and saw that much of the program's running time was devoted to spoofs of the rivalry between GMA-7 and ABS-CBN's competing drama anthology shows, and their hosts.

Despite her pregnancy, **Candy Pangilinan** was all over the place playing multiple roles, including TV hosts **Mel** and "Crispy Formalin." As usual, **Charo** was portrayed by **Jon Santos**.

While some of the spoofs were amusing, we wondered why so much of the show was taken up by the Mel-Charo rivalry. We also missed **Willie Nepomuceno**, and were disappointed to see that **Leo Martinez** had minimal participation in the episode.

We hope that, in future installments of the show, Willie will resurface and regale viewers with his on-target impersonations of political and show biz celebrities.

"Ispup" was at its best when Willie figured strongly in the program, and there was greater variety in the comedy program's topics and characters.

True, some pet characters, like **Miriam** and **Armida**, no longer figure strongly in the news, but other eminently spoofable personalities are just waiting to be impersonated on the show.

ABC-5's spoof program has developed a loyal following. It would be unfortunate if it frittered its advantage away with less than consistently hilarious and eventual telecasts. Please don't let the spoof show go *poof*!

'Misa Pamana'

HEAR mass like never before as the Filipino Heritage Festival kicks off with "Misa Pamana" at 7 p.m. on Sept. 5 at the Manila Cathedral.

Featuring the San Miguel Master Chorale and the San Miguel Philharmonic Orchestra, **Jonathan Velasco** conducting, "Misa Pamana" unites music and worship in inspiring renditions of excerpts from "Misa Baclayona" from Bohol, "Misa Adonai," "Misa Balintawak" by **Bonifacio Abdon**, "Misa Sto. Niño" by **Lucio San Pedro**, and "Misa Mysterium" by **Francisco Feliciano**.

Excerpts from **Ryan Cayabyab's** "Misa 2000," which placed second in the Original Music for Dance category at the prestigious Onassis International Cultural Competitions, will also be heard.

Organized by the private sector in association with the NCCA, the Filipino Heritage Festival is a month-long celebration highlighting cultural heritage sites across the country.

Those sites will be the venues for cultural activities involving the visual and performing arts, architecture, history, fashion and folklore. Call the NCCA at 527-2195 or BSMG Worldwide at 817-5670.

Int'l Choral Festival

LAST Monday, the CCP's International Choral Festival opened with a very well received concert at the CCP, at which local choral groups and four visiting chorales were enthusiastically applauded by the audience.

Do try to catch the succeeding shows, including the performance at the CCP this Friday, Sept. 5, of the Pilgrim Mission Choir from Korea and the Asian Institute for Liturgy and Music Chorale. The choral groups will also be performing in various towns in Laguna. Those out-of-town performances should be truly choice!

Feedback

AFTER we came out with our list of the 10 best Filipino films (in our estimation), we got a call from Ms **Clara Silva**, who ticked off her own best bets (no particular order): "Insiang," "Mga Munting Tinig," "Bagong Buwan," "Muro-Ami," "Tubog sa Ginto," "Kisapmata," "Itim," "Dekada '70" "Orapronobis" and "American Adobo."

Ms Silva also listed her favorite directors: **Lino Brocka**, **Mike de Leon**, **Marilou Diaz-Abaya**, **Gil Portes** and **Chito Roño**.

She made special mention of **Laurice Guillen**, whose performance in "Noon at Ngayon" she had just seen. She observed that Laurice has always been pretty, but in "Noon at Ngayon," "she has become truly beautiful."

In conclusion, Ms Silva paid tribute to the late, great actor, **Vic Silayan**, and ruefully said no younger actor has come close to his level of talent and achievement. We shared her disappointment. When, indeed, comes such another?

Mowelfund benefit sale

THE MOVIE Workers Welfare Foundation has come up with an imaginative way to raise badly-needed funds for its sick or indigent members: a sale of clothes, shoes, accessories, etc. donated by top stars and other entertainers.

Today is the last day of the fundraising Mowelfund *tiangge* at the Quezon City Hall. Do drop by and purchase some of the stars' one-of-a kind possessions that they have donated to the laudable project. For more details, call Mowelfund at 727-1961 or 727-1915.

'Very daring, very dark, sexy' Aguiluz movie opens today

THE DELAYS, title changes and arguments with the censors (for which she even had to make a public apology) couldn't stop Juliana Palermo from finally making her movie debut in Tikoy Aguiluz's "www.XXX.com," which opens today.

The Los Angeles-raised Juliana plays Joana, the 18-year-old Fil-Am girl lured into an online porn ring. Although this is her first movie, Juliana had no qualms about the nudity and the sex scenes the role calls for.

But Aguiluz points out that "this is not hard-core sex, it's not pornography, it's erotic."

"There's no pumping, no mashing, and no penetration," the director says, "but it is a very daring, very dark, sexy movie."

Even industry insiders are agog about "www.XXX.com" because of the new digital video technology Aguiluz used. It was the same equipment used in Hollywood films.

Samsung Electronics Philippines supported the movie by providing the products used in the film.

"www.XXX.com" is produced by Maverick Films. Sarge Lacuesta and Jasmin Coles wrote the script.

RED HOT. "www.XXX.com" star Juliana Palermo

Angelica plays Angelica

THE DRAMATIC side of the often-hilarious scene-stealer Angelica Jones comes to light in tonight's "Maalaala Mo Kaya" featuring her own life story.

Known for her wacky turn in the teleserye "Basta't Kasama Kita," her hilarious use of the English language and her spectacular dance numbers on "ASAP Mania" and "MTB," Angelica is one of the more unlikely up-and-coming stars in show biz.

At 14, Angelica testified in a child abuse and exploitation case against her former manager, Jojo Veloso.

Also in tonight's episode, directed by Gilbert Perez, are Sylvia Sanchez, Aiza Marquez, Joel Torre and Ricardo Cepeda.

JONES (left) and "MMK" host Santos-Concio

Martin, Pops enjoy the comfort of exes

DOLLYWOOD

Dolly Ann Carvajal

I HOOKED up with **Pops Fernandez** after her jampacked show at the Shang Makati last Saturday.

It's been awhile since we last saw each other, but the beauty about our friendship is that we can always pick up from where we left off.

Martin Nievera made a surprise appearance in Pipay's show. The crowd lapped up the estranged couple's bantering on stage. Whether you're a big Martin-Pops fan or not, you still can't have enough of the Concert King and Queen together. Both have reached a certain level of comfort with each other so that they can unabashedly rib each other about their individual private lives without seeming intrusive.

Martin teased Pops, "I checked first if the coast was clear before I went up on stage."

Pops blushed and said, "You didn't use to check. I always do." After the show, I kidded Pipay if **Brad Turvey** is her designated "coast guard." She just laughed.

Suffice it to say that things are smooth-sailing in their special friendship, but the wind can still blow in either direction. For now, it's enough that her heart remains afloat.

'Showgirls'

IT WAS absolute mayhem at the backstage of "Showgirls," but I enjoyed being caught up in the frenzy of it all. It somehow reminded me of the time my grandfather took me and my cousin **Kara** to a nightclub tour of Paris so we would get a glimpse of the other side of the "City of Lights." I remember feeling so grown-up back then because Kara and I had to wear heels and put on some make-up so we would be allowed to enter the clubs. We even had to lie about our age just to get in. I was in awe. The French women all looked like untouchable goddesses.

And last Saturday, I was right smack in the middle of the preparations for "Showgirls." No need for heels, make-up and lies about my age anymore. I was really where the action was.

In between costume changes, I cornered **Aubrey Miles** about her blossoming romance with **Troy Montero**. She said that they are not yet officially on but they do go out a lot. Both of them are still technically free to date others since what they have is not exclusive for now, but who knows what their hearts will be up to next?

Aubrey is raving about her interview with **Ricky Martin** in Singapore recently. "He's quite a flirt but he knows how to handle it. I was so starstruck, but of course I tried not to let it show. I named my brand-new Porsche Ricky to remind me of that once-in-a-lifetime experience of meeting him."

What about the alleged bad experience of her manager **Dondon Monteverde** with her because she has reportedly become swell-headed? Aubrey quickly denied this. "It's just a matter of miscommunication," she said. "I leave my schedules entirely to him since he handles my career. *Minsan lang nago-overlap sa dami ng* commitments *ko*."

I chatted with **Angela Velez**, who's all set to tie the knot with **Roy Ofek**, an ex of **Vina Morales**. After the wedding, they'll settle in L.A. but she won't turn her back on show biz completely. "I still have many pending commitments. Besides, I'll miss show biz so I'll shuttle back and forth between L.A and Manila."

As the soon-to-be Mrs. Ofek, Angela will convert to Judaism. That's what love can do, but didn't she ask her fiancé to convert to Catholicism instead? She said, "He's the man so he should be the one to call the shots. I'll just follow what he wants me to do."

I bumped into **Geneva Cruz** backstage also and she clarified rumors that she would be marrying her longtime boyfriend, **KC Montero**, soon.

"That's not true at all," she said. "Not now. We will get there someday, but for now we both want to achieve all we can in our respective careers. Marriage can wait."

Aleck Bovick just shrugged off talk linking her to **Zoren Legaspi**. "We just happen to be in the same soap opera," she said. "I don't know why people are insinuating all those crazy stories. I'm not bothered at all because **Carmina (Villaroel)** and I are such good friends."

There were indeed a lot of "sideshows" going on backstage of "Showgirls," but when it was showtime already, all issues were set aside. It was one helluva showdown which was no letdown at all!

Ms D tonight

THIS column serves as a teaser for my show with **TJ Manotoc**, "Celebrity DAT Com" on IBC-13, 9:30-10:30 p.m. tonight. Our guest co-host will be the inimitable Ms **Dina Bonnevie**.

Do catch our features on Pops, "Showgirls," **Joyce Jimenez**, **Lea Salonga** and scintillating interviews with self-confessed macho dancers. Hope you'll make us your Thursday habit from now on.

True Faith gigs

IT'S my birthday month, and to get the party mood going, I enjoin you all to check out my all-time fave band, True Faith, at their various gigs this month: Sept. 5, Gen. Santos; Sept. 6, Rockwell and Virgin Café; Sept. 7, Misamis Oriental; Sept. 12, Virgin Café; Sept. 13, Davao; Sept. 19, Pagadian; Sept. 21, Robinsons Dasmariñas Cavite.

Personal

ENDLESS thanks to all the loyal supporters and time-tested friends of my mom for being our bottomless source of strength during this trying time.

Happy birthday to the center of my universe, my daughter **Bianchi**.

For feedback, e-mail friends_at_dsquare@yahoo.com or dollyanne@truefaithband.com

Cory seeks solon's help in 'Morning . . .

From page A26

President was not siding with anyone in the matter and only wanted to patch up the differences between her daughter and Korina and Representative Martinez.

Representative Cuenco also noted that Kris' brother, Tarlac Rep. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III, reportedly Korina's former boyfriend, approached Representative Martinez at the House of Representatives last Wednesday.

Kris yesterday told INQUIRER Entertainment she appreciates the concern of her mother and brother.

"I understand where they are coming from," Kris said, "but I also understand Korina. I'll never abandon her. I'll be by her side no matter what."

Last week, Representative Martinez told INQUIRER Entertainment, "Korina said I'm *bastos dahil binara ko raw siya*. But I simply questioned her on certain aspects of the bill because she is lobbying for it."

The congresswoman had added, "I'm not onion-skinned, but my children were hurt by what (Korina) did to me. She has to be taught a lesson."

Kris said her and Korina's comments about Representative Martinez must have indeed made a "big impact" on the congresswoman's family "because 'Morning Girls' is really number one in Cebu."

"But I'll never apologize to her," she added, "because I know I did nothing wrong."

Kris said she and Korina would attend the congressional hearing on Sept. 11 "so that no charges will have to be filed."

Kris said her mother advised her and Korina to "be nice and humble" during the hearing.

"But in fairness to Korina, she has always been careful with what she says on our show," Kris added.

Korina had attended the hearing on House Bill No. 4955 or the medical malpractice bill that was originally filed in 1992. Representative Martinez is a member of the committee deliberating on the bill. *With a report from Marinel R. Cruz*

Scene stealers at the MTV awards

From page A26

like Madonna did.

Madonna then materialized out of the cake, this time dressed as the groom. The trio moved into Madonna's current hit, "Hollywood," and were joined by hip hop performer Missy Elliott.

Toward the end of the performance, Britney, Madonna and Christina locked lips. And that was all in the first five minutes of the show!

Christina performed a sensual medley of "Dirrty" with Redman and "Fighter" with Dave Navarro on guitar. The hall later took on a more serious tone when P Diddy and Run DMC paid homage to Jam Master Jay before presenting the award for Best Rap Video to 50 Cent for "In Da Club."

In a show-stealing moment, Eminem was joined on stage by Special Ed, the puppet from Comedy Central's "Crank Yankers." The rapper said Ed was part of anger management therapy as a result of his run-in with another puppet, Triumph the Dog, during the 2002 VMAs.

Another hysterical moment occurred when last year's host, Jimmy Fallon, was "questioned" about his sexual persuasion by the cast of "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" before introducing the award for Best Female Video.

Fred Durst and Jack Black took to the stage, with Black dressed as Michael Jackson, to accept what he thought was the "Comedian of the Millennium Award."

Avril Lavigne and Kelly Osbourne presented a Lifetime Achievement Award to music video pioneers Duran Duran, who never won a VMA during their career since their pioneering early work was made before the Video Music Awards.

The audience was brought to its feet as Beyonce descended from the ceiling upside down for a hot rendition of her new single, "Baby Boy" and the No. 1 hit "Crazy in Love" with Jay-Z.

The night ended with Metallica performing a pop-rock medley including Lenny Kravitz's "Are U Gonna Go My Way?," White Stripes' "Seven-Nation Army," Nirvana's "Smells Like Teen Spirit" and a surprising version of Michael Jackson's "Beat It."

The 2003 MTV Video Music Awards was available to a potential viewing audience of over 1 billion people via MTV's 38 music programming services in Asia, Australia, Europe, Latin America, North America and Russia, reaching 381.2 million households in 164 territories. Its convergent and original MTV.com programming will reach the entire online nation.

'Alikabok' the musical at Teatro Aguinaldo

"ALIKABOK," Musicat's original Filipino musical, is showing today, tomorrow and on Saturday (Sept. 4-6) at the Teatro Aguinaldo in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

"Alikabok," with music by Ryan Cayabyab and libretto by Noel Balmaceda, is the story of Bising Vallejo, of her journey, and the people she loved. It is directed by Tony Espejo.

Last March, Musicat was requested to stage the musical at the Insular Life auditorium in Alabang, for the Muntinlupa Development Foundation. This month, Class '72 of the National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP) and The Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service (TOWNS) Foundation are the sponsors of the "Alikabok" performances.

"Alikabok" is also fast becoming a star vehicle for young performers. Playing the lead role of the young and courageous heroine Bising is Waya Gallardo.

Roy Rolloda plays Ignacio, Bising's love. Roy was Jose Rizal in "Sino Ka Ba, Jose Rizal?" in 2002 and in "Darna" of Ballet Philippines last month.

China Cojuangco, who played multiple roles in 2002 performances of "Alikabok," this time plays one of her most challenging roles as Anna, the sassy Filipino-American *balikbayan* raring to sell her husband's *bahay na bato*.

WAYA GALLARDO plays Bising.

Another new performer who stands out in "Alikabok" is Kakai Bautista as the hilarious Nana Rosita.

Also in the cast are Philippine theater stalwarts Bodjie Pascua and Noel Reyes.

Providing the backbone of the production is an outstanding, talented, hard-working chorus composed of musical theater singers and actors.

Additional words and lyrics are by Rubak Valle and Waya Gallardo.

‘Kuwentong Adik’ helps in drug drive

SOME 3.4 million people are addicted to illegal drugs, according to the Dangerous Drugs Board.

SHOW TIME

However, only less than 2 percent of this figure are able to get treatment annually.

The drug problem continues to grow, wasting millions of pesos, lives, talents and energy, especially of the young.

In this light, Life Management Foundation Inc. (LMFI), a privately owned outpatient treatment facility for drug and alcohol addicts, has decided to produce a radio program called “Kuwentong Adik” every Saturday, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., on dzAR Angel Radyo.

Hosted by LMFI program director Jun Jun Abella and PR and radio man Tony Atayde, the program intends to help in the antidrug campaign by providing free drug counseling on air.

Listeners are encouraged to phone in their problems, questions and comments.

Both Abella and Atayde are former addicts.

The highlight of the radio program is a recovering addict’s account of what it was like to be a drug or alcohol addict, how LMFI helped him, or how he overcame his addiction.

Says LMFI: Instead of getting addicted to drugs, get addicted to “Kuwentong Adik.”

Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX 7

Ali 1	NOON AT NGAYON
Ali 2	PINAY PIE
Ali 3	PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
Ali 4	SWAT
Ali 5	SPY KIDS 3
Ali 6	SINBAD
Ali 7	LEGALLY BLONDE

ARANETA COLISEUM

SEPT 3	NCA 7-STAG DERBY
SEPT 4	UAAP GAMES : ADMU VS. UST
SEPT 6	UAAP CHEERING COMPETITION
SEPT 10	UCAP 7-STAG DERBY
SEPT 11	UAAP GAMES: UST VS. UE
SEPT 12	UCAP 7-STAG DERBY
Opens December 2003	DISNEY ON ICE Featuring “Beauty & The Beast”

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

MANILA

EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	SEX BOMB / RAMPADORA
ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE

QUEZON CITY

ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	WWW.XXX.COM
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR

NOVA MALL · NOVALICHES CINEMA

A	PINAY PIE
B	SEX DRIVE
C	

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CINEMA-2	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

CAINTA RIZAL

STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	PINAY PIE
CINEMA-2	TALK TO HER
CINEMA-3	WWW.XXX.COM
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	SWAT
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	FINDING NEMO
CINEMA-6	BIGAY HILIG
CINEMA-7	KEKA
CINEMA-8	ITALIAN JOB
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	LEGALLY BLONDE 2
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	SWAT
CINEMA-12	SINBAD
CINEMA-14	SPY KIDS 3D
CINEMA-15	PINAY PIE

LORES

CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT

NE CINEMAGIC · CABANATUAN

(LAS PIÑAS)	PINAY PIE
CINEMA-1	WWW.XXX.COM
CINEMA-2	NAKED WEAPON
CINEMA-4	VIEW FROM THE TOP

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL

(PARAÑAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

AYALA CENTER · ALABANG TOWN CENTER · AYALA CENTER CEBU · Ayala Mall Event

Spend an evening of romance and music as Ayala Malls presents jim brickman live

with a special performance by Anna Fegi at Ayala Center Makati and Alabang Town Center, and Rachel Alejandro at Ayala Center Cebu.

Ayala Center Makati
September 11, 7 pm
Glorietta Activity Center

Alabang Town Center
September 12, 7 pm
Corte de las Palmas

Ayala Center Cebu
September 13, 8 pm
Food and Entertainment Center

Admission is free!
Special reserved area for Ayala Discount Plus cardholders.
Seating is on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Globe · BMG · 92.3

Ayala Malls. Because you deserve more!

PAUL WALKER TYRESE EVA MENDES
2 FAST 2 FURIOUS
HOW FAST DO YOU LIKE IT?
OPENS SEPTEMBER 10

MTRCB ▶ R-13

united international pictures · VIVA · Robinsons Malls · MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS

ADVANCE SCREENING
September 4, 2003 7:30 PM
Cinema 2- Robinsons Movieworld Galleria

RUNWAY FASHION SHOW
September 4, 2003, 6:00 PM
Cinema Lobby, Robinsons Movieworld Galleria

SPECIAL THANKS TO:
UNIVERSAL MCA UNIVERSAL · Pizza Hut

soundtrack features the hot new anthem from Ludacris "Act A Fool". Grab a copy on CDs and Cassettes from MCA Universal.

Gérard DEPARDIEU
Élodie BOUCHEZ
Le Pacte du SILENCE

AYALA CINEMAS
OPENS SEP. 10 AT ArtFilm
DARING. AWARD-WINNING. EXTRAORDINARY
Based on the novel *"Sacre et Profane"* by Marcelle Bernstein

LE PACTE DU SILENCE
(The Pact Of Silence)
What if the truth behind the secret is a lie?
Gérard Depardieu & Élodie Bouchez

Golden Globe winner Gérard Depardieu stars as a Jesuit priest, Dr. Joachim Ferrer. Harboring a secret from his violent past and having found solace in the church, he soon finds himself caught in a web of intrigue when a young Carmelite nun, Sarah, is rushed to his hospital. Suffering from inexplicable pain and delusions, Joachim recognizes in Sarah the familiar symptoms of repression and denial. What no one knows is the terrifying secret she carries inside her...

MTRCB Rating: Parental Guidance 13
NOKIA · COLUMBIA PICTURES · INQUIRER

The Perfect Venue
Movie premieres the way it should be done...
The right way.

GREENBELT 1 Onstage AYALA CENTER

At Onstage Greenbelt 1 with 800 luxurious seats, latest digital system, stadium seating, stylish lobby.

Also available for other types of live presentation and entertainment
For inquiries and reservations, call 752-7862 or 752-7877.

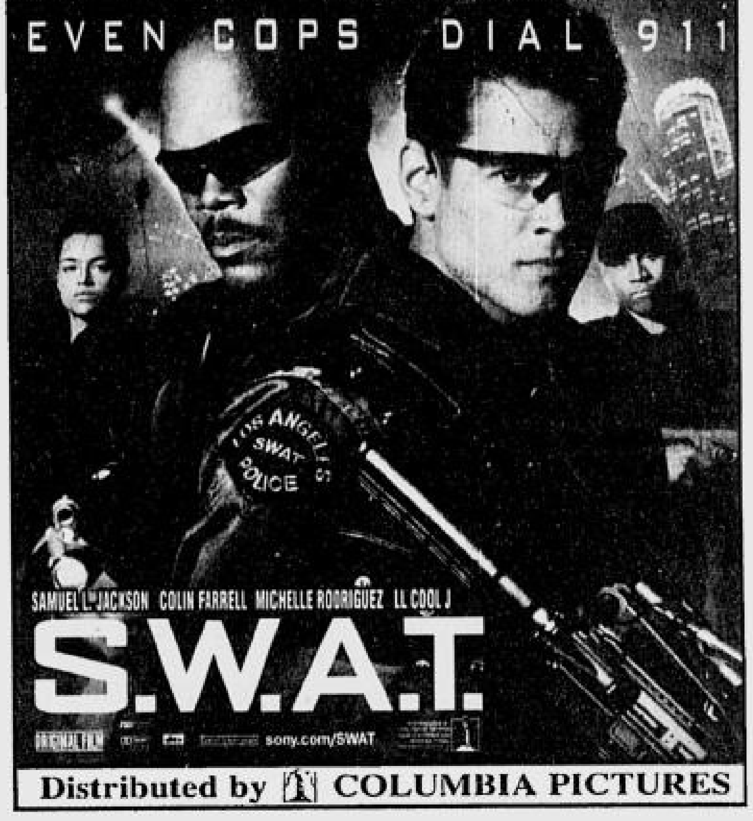
She's back!
LEGALLY blonde 2

AYALA CINEMAS
NOW SHOWING AT AYALA CINEMAS
MTRCB Rating: General Patronage

"THIS SUMMER'S SHINIEST, WITTIEST COMEDY!"
Reese WITHERSPOON
LEGALLY blonde 2
Bigger. Bolder. Blonder.

MTRCB ▶ G PARADAAL | ALL AGES ADMITTED.
NOW SHOWING

NOW SHOWING !
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult



Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES

Movie Pass Treat
Movie-watching just got more exciting!

Get a Movie Pass Treat Card when you buy a movie ticket in any participating SM Cinema Branches. Watch 4 movies with your Movie Pass Treat card and enjoy your next movie for FREE!

Movie Pass Treat
SM CINEMA
Movie-watching just got more exciting!

SM CINEMA
Promo runs from September 1 - 7, 2003
SM City Pampanga • SM City Cagayan de Oro • SM City Iloilo • SM Bicutan
See posters for details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit # 3630 Series of 2003

THEATRE MALL
GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND EX
NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1	S.W.A.T. 11:30, 2:05, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50 P13	
CINEMA 2	LEGALLY BLONDE 2 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 10:00 GP	

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA • 7224496

MUSIC MUSEUM

SEPT 5 & 6,	GARY V. HITS MUSIC MUSEUM	9:00PM
SEPT 12 & 13	ROBERT SEÑA "SHOWTIME"	9:00PM

FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL: 721-6726 OR 721-0635

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND EX

PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN PG 13 1:20, 4:10, 7:05, 10:00	S.W.A.T. PG13 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00	SINBAD GP 11:50, 1:50, 3:50, 5:50, 7:50, 9:50
PINAY PIE PG13 12:40, 2:55, 5:10, 7:25, 9:40	SPY KIDS 3D GP 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00	LEGALLY BLONDE 2 GP 11:45, 1:50, 3:55, 6:00, 8:05, 10:10

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

ENTERTAINMENT

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

Editor **Louie C. Camino**

Cory seeks solon's help in 'Morning Girls' issue

Kris vows she'll never abandon Korina 'no matter what'

By Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—Former President Corazon "Cory" Aquino wants the differences settled between her TV talk show host daughter Kris Aquino and the latter's co-host Korina Sanchez, and Cebu Rep. Clavel Martinez, according to another lawmaker.

Cebu City Rep. Antonio Cuenco told the INQUIRER that the former president had asked him to convince Representative Martinez not to pursue her plans against Kris and Korina.

Representative Cuenco quoted Ms Aquino as saying, "You better try to do something about this, Tony, to end the conflict because you're all my friends. We don't want you to quarrel with each other."

Representative Martinez earlier said she would take "legal action" against Korina if she and Kris would again snub a House of Representatives hearing on the responsibility of broadcasters for what they say on the air. She did not say if she would also take legal action against Kris.

The congresswoman had said she invited Korina and Kris to attend the Aug. 20 and 26 hearings conducted by the House committee on public information, but the two TV hosts did not show up.

Another session will be held on Sept. 11, according to the lawmaker.

She earlier said that Korina had called her "*bastos*" in the July 31 episode of "Morning Girls with Kris and Korina" after the lawmaker disagreed with Korina's views during deliberations on a medical malpractice bill that same month. Sanchez is an advocate of the medical malpractice bill.

In the same episode of "Morning Girls," Kris had commented on what she felt was "the less than respectful treatment" by Maguindanao Rep. Didagen Dilangalen of Armed Forces chief of staff Gen. Narciso Abaya during the House hearing on the Oakwood mutiny.

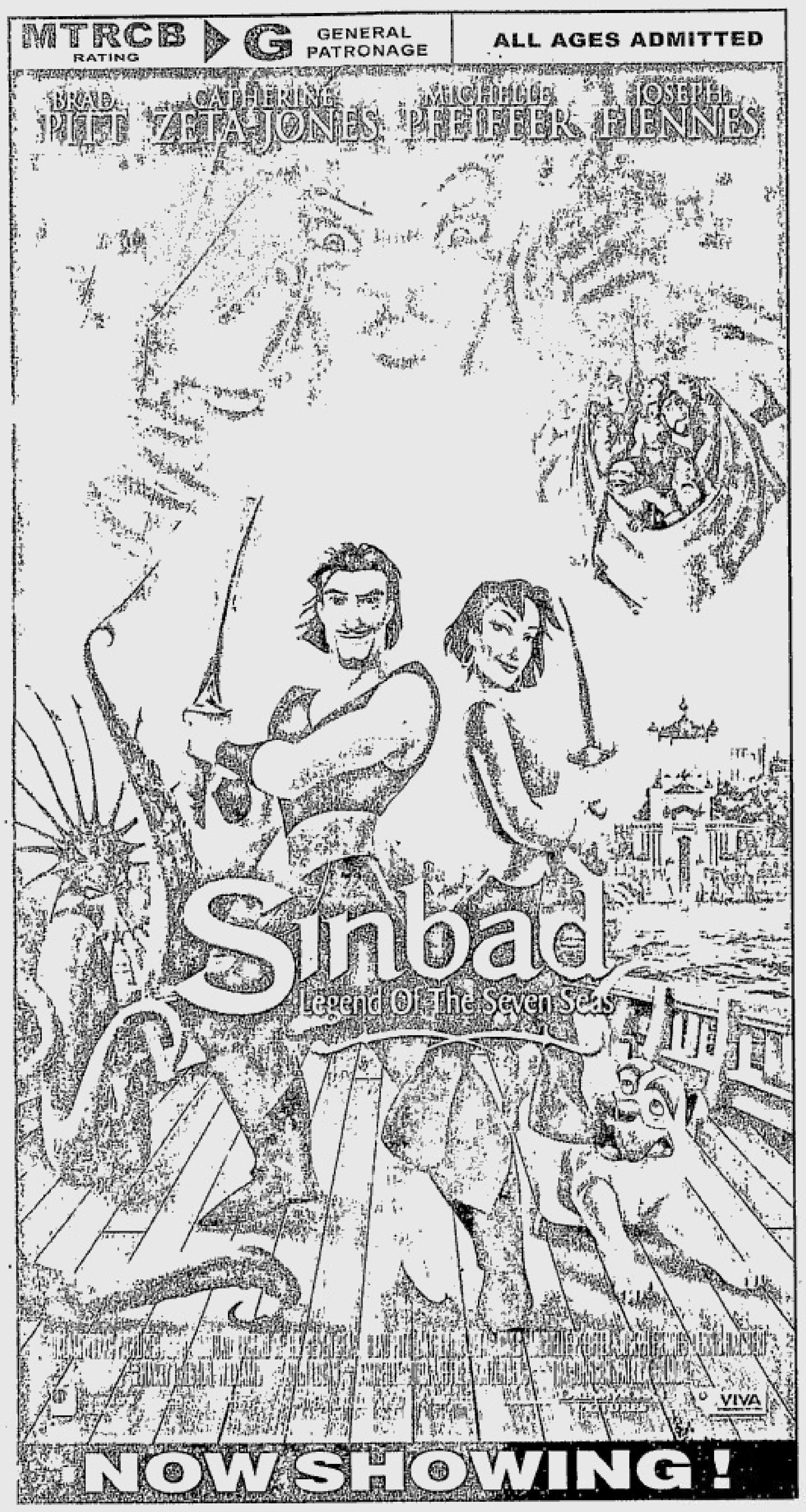
Kris' lawyer, Raymond Fortun, sent a letter to the House committee on public information saying Kris "merely expressed her personal opinion."

The House hearings on the responsibility of broadcasters started after Kris and Korina made their comments on their show.

Representative Cuenco said he and former President Aquino had dinner together last Friday night at the Cebu Country Club. Ms Aquino was in Cebu to receive the peace award given by the University of Southern Philippines.

Rep. Cuenco pointed out that the former

CORY/A24


MTRCB RATING ▶ G GENERAL PATRONAGE
ALL AGES ADMITTED
BRAD PITT
CATHERINE ZETA-JONES
MICHELLE PFEIFFER
JOSEPH FIENNES
Sinbad
Legend Of The Seven Seas
VIVA
NOW SHOWING!

Scene stealers at MTV awards

RIGHT SIDE UP now, Beyonce Knowles performs after emerging from the ceiling upside-down.

REUTERS

SANTA Monica, California—The 2003 MTV Video Music Awards, honoring the best in music video, was flooded with celebrities at Radio City Music Hall in New York City last Thursday.

Chris Rock hosted the ceremony for the third time (after 1997 and 1999).

Beyonce ("Crazy in Love"), Coldplay ("The Scientist") and Justin Timberlake ("Cry Me a River") topped the list of winners for their music videos, each nabbing three awards.

50 Cent ("In Da Club") and Missy Elliott ("Work It") each won two Video Music Awards, with Missy Elliott clinching Best Video of the Year.

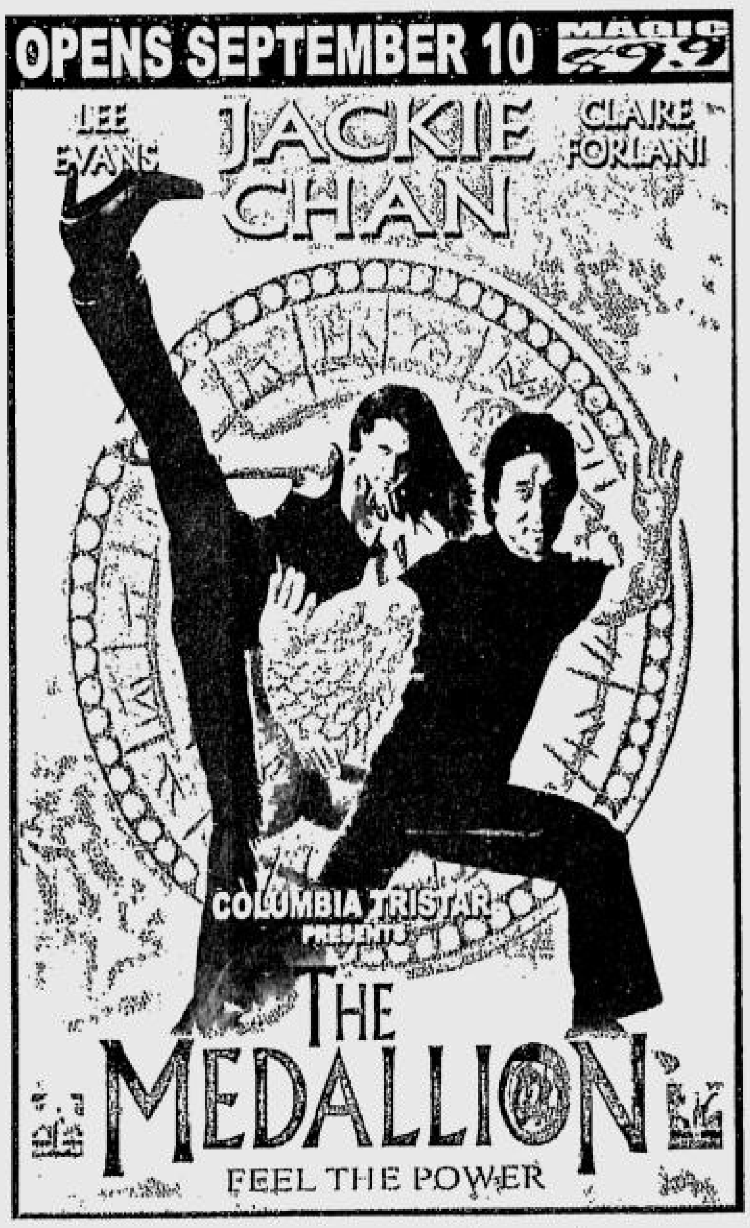
Rounding out the list of winners were Eminem, Johnny Cash, Linkin Park, Queens of the Stone Age, Radiohead and White Stripes, with one award each.

The night started off with a surprise performance by Madonna. In a nod to 20 years of Video Music Awards history, of which Madonna has been a part, the incomparable star's daughter Lola, along with her friend Honour, walked onto the stage dressed as flower girls at a wedding. Suddenly, pop sensations Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera dressed in wedding gowns, emerged from a wedding cake, reminiscent of the cake Madonna danced on in her 1984 VMA performance. Britney and Christina were singing and dancing to "Like a Virgin" just

SCENE/A24

SM CINEMA
Eiga Sai 2003:
The Kitano Selection
and Films from the ASEAN
12:30 pm
A SCENE AT THE SEA
3:00 pm
BOILING POINT
Subject to MTRCB Rating
SM Megamall
Cinema 6
Sept. 4, 2003
ADMISSION IS FREE
Brought to you by:
The Japan Foundation Manila Office
For the:
ASEAN - Japan Exchange Year 2003
5:30 pm
WHISPERING SANDS
Subject to MTRCB Rating
8:00 pm
KIDS RETURN

MTRCB ▶ R-13
2 FAST 2 FURIOUS
HOW FAST DO YOU LIKE IT?
OPENS SEPTEMBER 10


OPENS SEPTEMBER 10
MAGIC 89.9
LEE EVANS
JACKIE CHAN
CLAIRE FORLANI
COLUMBIA TRISTAR PRESENTS
THE MEDALLION
FEEL THE POWER

NOW SHOWING!
MTRCB RATING ▶ R RESTRICTED
Strictly for ADULTS No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted.
Breaking All Box-Office Record in Asia
More shocking than the "The Ring"
More Horrifying than the "The Eye"
Watch if you dare!
New Blood
EMPEROR MULTIMEDIA GROUP present NEW BLOOD
MAGGIE WU • ANDREA YEH • ANDERSON CHENG • DONNIE WONG • EKIN CHAN • JOSIE LAM
www.newblood.com
Directed by JOHN HARK
2003 EMG Films Ltd. All Rights Reserved

BUSINESS

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inq7money.net

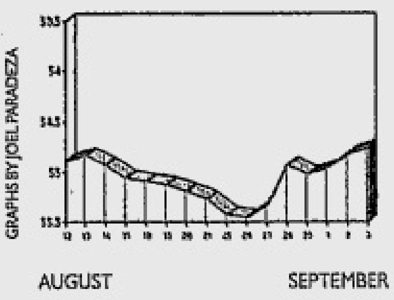
Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

PETRON TS³
Ultron
The Ultimate Release from Engine Stress. From Petron.
AVAILABLE IN TOURING, EXTRA, RALLYE, RACE.

GMA urges rich nations to drop 'clever tricks'

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

P 54.755 = $ 1

As of 5 p.m., Sept. 3, 2003

¥ 116.06 = $ 1

As of 5 p.m., Sept. 3, 2003

GOLD: $ 371.70-372.30
per ounce Hong Kong, Sept. 3, 2003

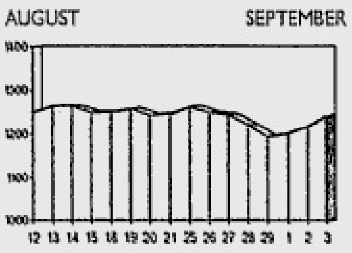
STOCK MARKET

Stocks end up

STOCKS, led by telecom leader PLDT , rose nearly 2 percent yesterday on follow-through buying on selected blue chips, analysts said.

Trading volume remained thin as political and other uncertainties kept investors cautious. Turnover reached P393.1 million, slightly up from Tuesday's P321.3 million.

The main index closed higher for the third straight session, up 1.92 percent, or 23.38 points, to 1,241.48 points. *Reuters*



(See stock market report on Page B2)

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday urged rich nations to help ensure the success of the World Trade Organization (WTO) talks by refraining from using "clever tricks" such as quotas and farm subsidies.

Ms Macapagal and Malaysia's Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, addressing a high-level regional business forum in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei, indicated that developing nations cannot blindly open up their markets because national interests are at stake and the effects of globalization are not all positive.

East Asia's aggressive efforts to forge regional and bilateral trade arrangements while supporting the multilateral regime under the WTO was a hotly debated topic during the two-day meeting of the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC) in Brunei's capital.

There are concerns that such regional accords would undermine efforts to cobble common rules governing world trade under the WTO umbrella.

"Let there be no misunderstanding: we are committed to being an active participant in the global economy but we are also committed to ensuring that we achieve this in a manner consistent with our own development priorities," Ms Macapagal said.

"I believe this is no different than the approach taken by many other developing and developed countries actively engaged in international trade."

Industrialized and developing nations remain at odds over initiatives to tear down trade barriers in the sensitive agricultural sector as well as services. The impasse is threatening to stall progress during the Sept. 10-14 WTO ministerial meeting in Cancun, Mexico.

"For us, and I'm sure for other developing countries, a major test for the success of the WTO negotiations is how they will fulfill the promise to open global markets for the products in which the developing countries have an advantage," said the President, a former economics professor and trade official.

"This means breaking down and dissolving barriers to those products—barriers such as quotas, health and sanitary regulations, technical obstacles and other clever tricks that developed countries use to beat down the competition from developing countries.

"Not the least among these clever tricks are the massive subsidies given to developed country agriculture with which, as a result, poor countries cannot hope to compete." *AFP*

Peso seen bouncing back to 54.50 to $1 by yearend

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE PESO should recover to 54.50 to a dollar by year's end provided overseas workers' remittances flow in and the budget deficit stayed within projected levels, according to foreign bank HSBC.

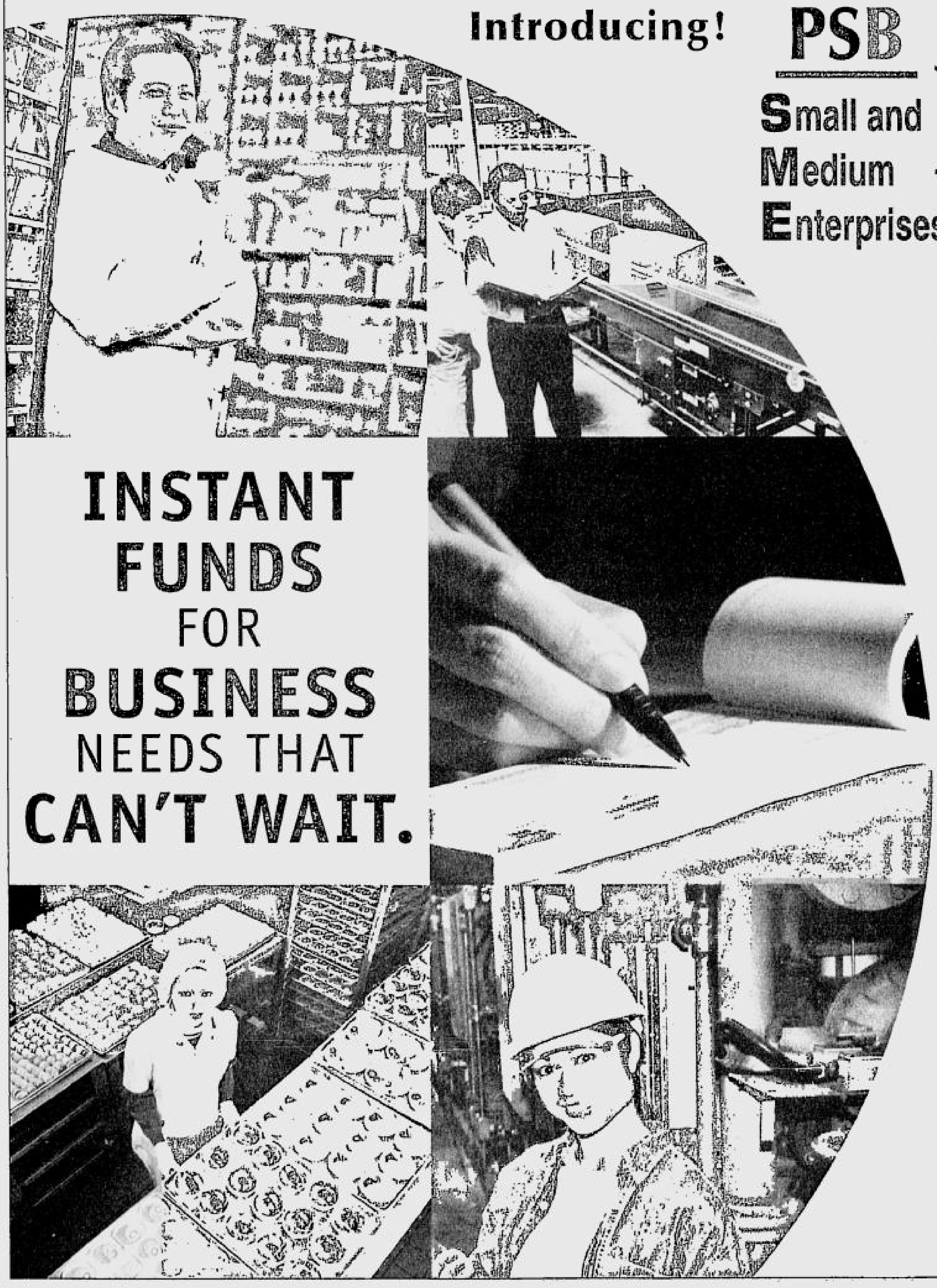
The local currency yesterday closed at 54.755 to $1 from P54.825 last Tuesday. Investors continued to take profit on their dollars as prospects of the local currency's rebound had become clearer.

HSBC treasurer John McGowan yesterday blamed "political shenanigans" for pulling down the peso to its recent low of 55.60 to a dollar. He said the foreign bank's P53:$1 outlook was no longer achievable after negative developments bombarded financial markets since late July.

"Politics drove the peso down in late 2000 to early 2001 and it was politics that did it again to the peso recently," he said.

Meantime, Moody's Investors Service yesterday assured that it would keep its outlook and ratings on the Philippines as long as "domestic and external conditions suggest" that the Macapagal administration could push ahead with economic reforms.

"While recent challenges to the authority of the Macapagal-Arroyo administration and of the country's central bank reflect underlying political cleavages in the Philippines, Moody's assessment is that the government remains capable of maintaining political and economic stability," it said.



Introducing! PSB
Small and Medium Enterprises Business Credit Line

INSTANT FUNDS FOR BUSINESS NEEDS THAT CAN'T WAIT.

Whenever business demands require additional cash for working capital, bridge financing or simply seizing a business opportunity, let **PSBank S.M.E. Business Credit Line** give you the edge.

- **Convenience of availment**
  For instant funds, **just write a check!**
- **Save on interest charges** by paying the principal amount anytime, when you have excess cash. Then avail again when you need it.
- **Flexibility to borrow** for short-term periods
- Credit line starts at **P1 Million**
- **No commitment fee** upon approval

Use your real estate* and seize that business opportunity.
* except agri-agra

Call PSBank at 885-8357 / 885-8361 / 885-8208 locals 8295 / 8364 / 8365 or visit the PSBank branch nearest you.

PSBank
PHILIPPINE SAVINGS BANK
A METROBANK SUBSIDIARY
Working harder for you.

PSBank Center, 777 Paseo de Roxas cor. Sedeño St., Makati City • www.psbank.com.ph

KIA SIGNET KC2700 Back to Back Paandar+Papremyo *Para sa Inyo!*
Promo Period: Valid up to Sept 19, 2003
LOW DOWN PAYMENT as Low as P89,000 D.P.
LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT as Low as P5,835 Monthly
50% DP / 60 mon. term
0% INTEREST PLAN 50% D.P. / 12 Months
PANORAMIC 4x2 w/o Aircon
Every KC2700 Buyer also receives a raffle coupon and a chance to win any of these fabulous prizes!
Grand Prize: Preglo RS Enterprise Van or RIO 1.5 Hatchback A/T
2nd Prize: 2 winners of **Boracay Family Trip** for 4 w/ P10,000 baon
3rd Prize: 20 winners of **Nokia 3530 Mobile Phone**
4th Prize: 15 winners of **SM Gift Certificate** worth P5,000 each!
Consolation Prizes: 150 winners of **KIA Gift Pack** worth P1,000 each!
SEE PRINT AD FOR DETAILS

KIA BALINTAWAK (*Signet Balintawak*)
1240 EDSA Balintawak, Q.C.
(Sales) 361-0544; 330-8019; 330-6670
(Service) 330-6708; 330-7668
Fax: 362-8357

KIA MANDALUYONG (*Signet Mand.*)
# 79 EDSA Mandaluyong City
Tels.: 531-4631 to 33; 531-1949;
531-4424 Fax: 531-4380

KIA MAKATI (*Signet Makati*)
La Fuerza Plaza
2241 Pasong Tamo St., Makati City
Tels.: 817-8416; 817-8417; 817-8406
Telefax: 817-8421

KIA LAS PIÑAS (*Signet Las Piñas*)
(In front of SM Southmall)
Tels.: 801-7656; 801-7668;
802-1024; 806-2235 Telefax:806-2230

Subject to Bank Approval
Financing Promo: 24 months to 60 months
Per DTI-NCR Permit No 1679 Series of 2003

P1B IN DEPOSIT, SECURITY

National Steel bid rules issued

By Elena R. Torrijos

INVESTORS interested in operating the mothballed National Steel Corp.'s Iligan plant are required to put up P500 million in cash deposit.

The winning proponent will also have to post P500 million in rehabilitation and operating security.

The management committee of NSC invited interested parties two weeks ago to submit proposals to "lease with option to purchase" the Iligan steel plant.

According to the guidelines set by the management committee, the cash deposits from prospective investors will be held in escrow in a reputable bank or financing institution or placed in a committed credit facility for the financing of the plant rehabilitation, start-up expenses and initial working capital.

The applying company or consortium should also have a net worth proportionate to the magnitude of the financial requirements of leasing and operating the NSC plant.

The performance security, according to the management committee, is required to guarantee the faithful performance of the winning bidder's obligations. The rehabilitation and operating performance security should be equivalent to P500 million or one year's lease payment plus six months payment for the plant's utilities, whichever is higher.

"The proponent must have adequate financial capability to sustain the financial requirements of the rehabilitation, upgrade, operation and maintenance of the plant facilities," the management committee said in the NSC guidelines.

The committee is also requiring investors to prove that they have the experience and technical capability to undertake the operation of flat steel rolling mills and/or billet making.

Registered applicants must include in their technical offers a comprehensive rehabilitation program that would specifically cover specific and tangible target, timetable and milestones when the target would be completed.

Investors should be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission or the Department of Trade and Industry.

All registered prospective investors have until Sept. 30 to submit their offers.

The Iligan plant would be turned over to the winning applicant for lease, rehabilitation and operation "for a limited period" as long as the winner was not in violation of the contractual agreement to be drawn up for the project.

Earlier, Global Infrastructure Holdings Inc., the holding company of the Ispat group, has expressed its interest in leasing and operating NSC's Iligan plant.

After failing to service its debts, NSC shut down its operations three years ago and sought rehabilitation with the SEC, which subsequently approved the liquidation of the company.

As outlined in an SEC-approved liquidation plan and under an agreement signed by creditor banks and shareholders of NSC this year, the banks will become majority owners of the Iligan plant and other operating assets of the steel company through debt-to-equity conversion.

RP gets $150-M loan for capital market reforms

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE ASIAN Development Bank has approved a $150-million loan for the continued implementation of the country's capital market reforms.

In a statement, the ADB said the 2ndNon-Bank Financial Governance Program would address graft and corruption in the financial markets, improve transparency, strengthen investor protection, and promote the mobilization of domestic savings.

"The Philippines' financial sector is bank-dominated, with the corporate sector dependent on bank loans to finance growth. However, the high level of non-performing loans among banks and the over-reliance of the corporate sector on them reflect both weak governance and the lack of alternative financing sources to banks," the ADB said.

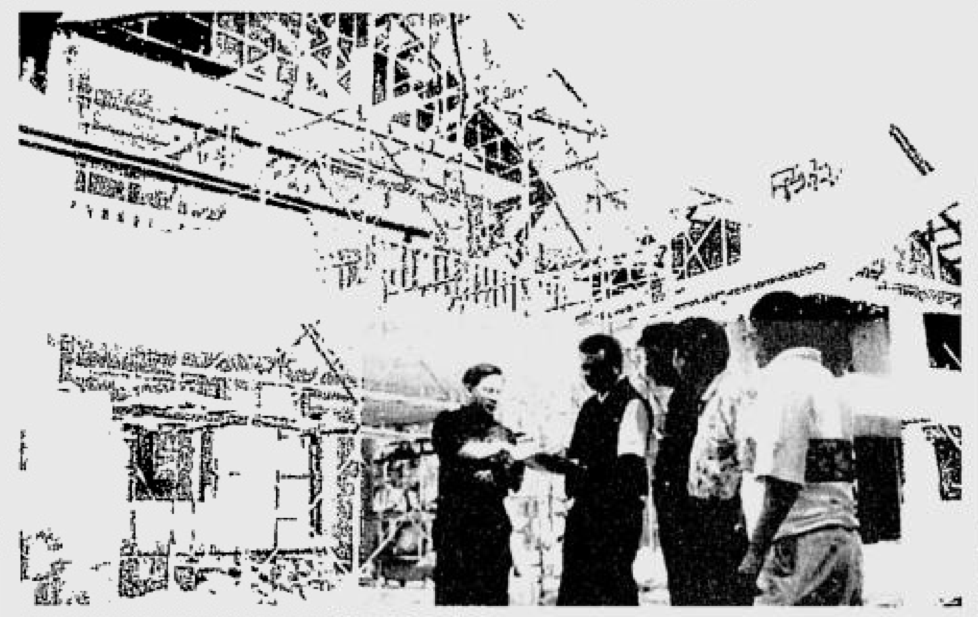
The non-bank financial sector comprises the Philippine Stock Exchange and a variety of financial intermediaries, including investment houses, finance companies, broker-dealers, mutual funds, investment management companies, and insurance companies.

The program seeks to help strengthen the institutional and policy framework, establish an effective anti-money laundering regime, boost the supervisory functions of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and promote investor protection and confidence in the PSE.

"A more transparent non-bank financial sector based on international standards will improve investor confidence and attract higher levels of investment to the Philippines," said Noy Siackhachanh, director of ADB's governance, finance and trade division.

"Importantly, the program will also increase liquidity in the equity and bond markets, making it easier for companies to raise funds for investment through initial public offerings and bond issuance," Siackhachanh added.

Accountants and auditors will adopt new reporting requirements and undergo retraining according to International Accounting Standards, the ADB said.



CAMP JOHN HAY FOREST CABINS
Officers of the CJH Development Corp., led by chair Robert John L. Soprepeña (2nd from left), inspect the ongoing construction of the Camp John Hay forest cabins located in Scout Hill. With Sobrepeña are chief operating officer Benigno T. Cabrieto, architect Ruben Payumo, Jaime Borromeo and Gus Salgado, Interpro Inc. president.

SMC earmarks $700M for regional expansion

BREWER San Miguel Corp. plans to invest up to $700 million in seven food and beverage businesses in China and other Asia-Pacific countries, chair and chief executive Eduardo Cojuangco said yesterday.

The Philippine-domiciled company will sign agreements soon to establish food and beverage complexes in these areas, he said without naming the other parties.

Cojuangco had said earlier that a San Miguel "food and beverage complex" would also be set up in Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.

"Ultimately, each (market) will have $100 million in investments by San Miguel," he said.

SMC's annual group revenue should be boosted by $300 million from sales generated in these markets.

Cojuangco also said that SMC was likely to meet its P7-billion net profit target for 2003, up from P6.63 billion in 2002, when the company booked a restructuring cost of P837 million.

"I think we will be able to hit our P7-billion net profit target this year," Cojuangco told reporters after delivering a speech at a joint meeting of the Canadian, European and Japanese chambers of commerce here.

Cojuangco said San Miguel's sales were likely to improve in the second half but did not elaborate.

SMC's net profit for the three months to June fell 10 percent from a year earlier to P1.709 billion as the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) viral outbreak limited beer sales in Hong Kong and China.

First half to June net profit rose 2 percent to P3.05 billion, with net sales growing 9 percent to P72.16 billion. *AFP*

MIAA-Clark airport agency merger OKd

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—President Macapagal-Arroyo on Monday announced the merger of the Manila International Airport Authority and the re-established Clark International Airport Corp. to push the full development and operations of the Diosdado Macapagal International Airport (DMIA) here.

The President made the announcement in a program commemorating the centennial of the former American military facility, the Clark Air Base. The airport facility was installed by the American military, which pulled out of the country in November 1991.

From 1903 until the Senate rejected the extension of the Philippine-US Military Bases Agreement on Sept. 16, 1991, Clark was America's largest military air base and, together with the former Subic Naval Base in Zambales, formed part of the American air-sea complex in the Asia-Pacific region.

Ms Macapagal also placed the merged entity, which has yet to be named, under the policy supervision of the Department of Transportation and Communications.

Transportation Secretary Leandro Mendoza attended the merger's ceremonial signing held after the centennial rites at the DMIA's pre-departure lobby.

During the program, Ms Macapagal said she was "disappointed" that no planes had landed at the DMIA since she declared it an alternate to the Ninoy Aquino International Airport in 2001.

The merger, she said, merely reinforced her past declaration to make Clark a "bastion of enterprise and development, a base of poverty alleviation."

The memorandum allowed the MIAA, under general manager Edgardo Manda, to develop, operate and manage the 2,500-hectare airport.

The agreement allows the MIAA to mobilize a portion of its income for the Clark airport.

She hailed the efforts of the Clark Development Corp. for spending P250 million to rehabilitate two 3.2-km parallel runways and $11 million for the upgrade of the radar system.

The CDC has managed the airport after the CIAC was dissolved in early 2001.

The MIAA, the President said, was allocating P100 million to improve the airport's apron, widen its taxiway and buy a ramp bus and additional X-ray machines.

"We have to make this terminal world-class in services as well," Ms Macapagal said.

After emphasizing at length her being a Kapampangan and her concern for Pampanga, she said arrangements had also been made to make international passenger airlines catering to overseas Filipino workers to use Clark starting Sept. 28. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Agriculture sector seen missing growth target

By Christine A. Gaylican

THE PHILIPPINES might miss its 4-percent growth target for the agriculture sector due to the adverse effects of extreme weather conditions on rice and corn production.

Data released by the Bureau of Agriculture showed that rice production this year might fall short of the target of 14.27 million metric tons due to the effects of El Niño during the first half of the year and the onslaught of super typhoons in the third quarter.

The agriculture department expects rice production to reach only 13.17 million MT this year.

Production during the first half reached only 53.8 million MT, 5.1 percent below last year's production.

The production decline was particularly felt in Cagayan Valley, Western and Central Visayas, Socsargen and Bicol due to inadequate irrigation and flooding caused by the typhoons.

Corn production was likewise expected to miss the target of 5 million MT due to the devastation caused by Typhoon Harurot in Isabela, although year-end production was seen hitting 4.478 million MT, up slightly from last year's 4.319 MT.

Agriculture Secretary Luis Lorenzo remained bullish, however, about the agriculture sector's prospects for the year despite the low numbers.

"We are moving heaven and earth to attain the 4-percent target. And I am not revising the growth forecast because there is no clear basis yet. What we are trying to do is to maximize efforts to achieve this," Lorenzo said.

INTEREST RATES

September 03, 2003-
MART1 Rates

Benchmark Interest Rates	MART1 3-Sep-03	MART1 2-Sep-03
1 Month	6.225	6.2179
3 Months	6.3442	6.3867
6 Months	6.7223	6.8133
1 Year	8.385	8.3933
2 Years	9.8268	9.8135
3 Years	10.3886	10.4567
4 Years	10.7783	10.8
5 Years	11.1589	11.1417
7 Years	11.6054	11.6308
10 Years	11.91	11.9267
20 Years	12.325	12.2617
25 Years	12.5617	12.4983

SOURCE: MART/BLOOMBERG

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of September 3, 2003)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	17.75	17.75	17.75	17.75	31,500
Bank of the Phil. Islands	41.5	42.5	41.5	42	1,118,600
China Banking Corp.	660	665	660	665	900
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	33	33.5	33	33.5	171,500
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	29	29.5	29	29	180,000
Philippine National Bank	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5	49,800
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	13	13.5	13	13.5	26,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	26.5	26.5	26.5	26.5	16,000
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
Bankard Inc.	1.36	1.36	1.3	1.34	72,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	1650	1650	1650	1650	3,600
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	1.38	1.38	1.34	1.34	498,000
Sun Life Financial Inc.	1180	1180	1175	1175	1,120
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	24	24	24	24	31,000
Diversified Fin. Network	2	2	2	2	7,000
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.59	0.6	0.58	0.6	4,630,000
Easycall Phils. Inc.-Com.	0.76	0.76	0.73	0.73	130,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	655	655	650	650	10,680
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.047	0.049	0.047	0.049	7,000,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.046	0.048	0.046	0.048	30,400,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	0.61	0.61	0.58	0.59	9,050,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	580	590	580	590	132,810
Philweb Corp.	0.013	0.013	0.012	0.013	8,500,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	13	13	13	13	344,000
Manila Electric Co. B	20.75	20.75	20.5	20.5	814,200
Petron Corp.	1.92	1.94	1.92	1.94	2,200,000
Salcon Power Corp.	2.2	2.2	2.18	2.18	154,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.93	0.93	0.93	0.93	500,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	739,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	90,000
Union Cement Corp.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	1,560,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.95	2.95	2.9	2.9	199,000
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	31	31	30.5	30.5	88,500
Jollibee Foods Corp.	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	863,400
San Miguel Corp. A	54.5	55	54.5	55	204,000
San Miguel Corp. B	62.5	63	62.5	63	91,500
Universal Robina Corp.	6	6	6	6	185,000
Vitarich Corp.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	100,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	4.3	4.35	4.3	4.35	3,587,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	2.6	2.65	2.6	2.65	2,079,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.034	0.034	0.034	0.034	2,000,000
A. Soriano Corp.	0.79	0.8	0.79	0.8	450,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.008	0.008	0.008	0.008	7,000,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	1.72	1.72	1.72	1.72	10,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.57	0.58	0.55	0.56	20,690,000
A Brown Co. Inc.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	40,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.125	0.13	0.125	0.13	610,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.0925	0.0925	0.0925	0.0925	1,100,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.26	0.28	0.26	0.26	7,050,000
Ebecom Holdings Inc.	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	20,000
Ever-Gotesco Resources	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	1,000,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04	74,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp	17.5	17.5	17.25	17.25	232,600
Global Equities Inc.	0.115	0.12	0.115	0.115	660,000
Ionics Inc.	1.38	1.4	1.38	1.38	410,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.82	1.82	1.82	1.82	30,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.89	0.92	0.89	0.91	7,350,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.26	0.27	0.26	0.27	450,000
Music Corp.	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	1,450,000
Prime Orion Phils., Inc.	0.26	0.28	0.25	0.27	3,730,000
Roxas Holdings, Inc.	1	1	1	1	320,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	10,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.085	500,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	1.02	1.1	1.02	1.1	52,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.075	0.0775	0.075	0.0775	900,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	13.25	13.25	13	13	52,100
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Belle Corp.	0.53	0.53	0.53	0.53	550,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	50,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp (Pdr)	24.25	24.5	24.25	24.25	1,445,800
PLDT (10% Pref) Series R	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,000
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series U	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,700
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,600
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Y	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,000
PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,500
Pldt 10% Pref Series Bb	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,100
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	16,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	6.1	6.3	6.1	6.3	3,617,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	200,000
C&P Homes Inc.	0.21	0.215	0.21	0.215	40,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	760,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.24	0.24	0.23	0.23	500,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1	1.04	1	1.02	3,620,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.19	0.21	0.19	0.21	2,230,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.21	0.21	0.2	0.2	160,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	2	2	2	2	6,000
SM Development Corp.	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	100,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	5.5	5.7	5.5	5.6	8,933,000
MINING					
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	500,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.013	0.013	0.013	0.013	1,000,000
Interport Res. B	0.0034	0.0034	0.0034	0.0034	1,000,000
Pacifica	0.011	0.011	0.011	0.011	1,000,000

	SHARES	VALUE(P)
Bank & Fin Svc.	2,169,020	69,097,955.00
Comm'l & Ind'l.	131,950,590	246,470,930.00
PRO	20,166,000	77,195,300.00
Mining	500,000	100,000.00
OIL	3,000,000	27,400.00
GRAND TOTALS:	157,785,610	392,891,585.00

	AVERAGES	
Bank & Fin Svc.	428.22	UP 9.10
Comm'l & Ind'l.	1,810.17	UP 23.08
PRO	542.65	UP 18.30
Mining	1,236.14	UP 52.12
OIL	1.41	UNCH 0.00
SME	100.00	UNCH 0.00
All Shares Index	783.76	UP 7.73
Composite	1,241.48	P 23.38

NO. OF ADVANCES: 41, NO. OF DECLINES: 14, NO. OF UNCHANGED: 36, NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 91, NO. OF TRADES: 2,235

DISCLOSURES

PCI Leasing and Finance Inc. bought 77,000 of its own shares at P1.30 per share.

* * *

EQUITABLE PCI Bank Inc. clarified that talks with prospective buyers of its acquired assets were still preliminary and non-conclusive.

* * *

EAST Asia Power Resources Corp. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on Sept. 25, 9 a.m. at the Manila Polo Club, Makati City. Stockholders of record as of Sept. 4 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

* * *

PHILIPPINE Long Distance Telephone Co. declared cash dividends of P1 per share on its Series B, F, Q, V and Z 10-percent cumulative convertible preferred stocks. Dividends will be payable on Sept. 30 to shareholders of record as of Sept. 16. Dividends of P1 per share were also declared on the company's Series E, K, O and U 10-percent cumulative convertible preferred stocks for shareholders of record as of Sept. 25 and will be payable on Oct. 31. ***Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research***

CURRENCIES

September 3, 2003 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.924984	1.000000	54.891000
Japan	Yen	0.007949	0.008594	0.471700
United Kingdom	Pound	1.449912	1.567500	86.041600
Hongkong	Dollar	0.118603	0.128222	7.038200
Switzerland	Franc	0.652040	0.704920	38.693800
Canada	Dollar	0.663785	0.717618	39.390800
Singapore	Dollar	0.526816	0.569541	31.262700
Australia	Dollar	0.592824	0.640902	35.179800
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.453668	2.652661	145.607200
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.246656	0.266660	14.637200
Brunei	Dollar	0.525321	0.567924	31.173900
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000109	0.000118	0.006500
Thailand	Baht	0.022560	0.024390	1.338800
UAE	Dirham	0.251854	0.272279	14.945700
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.081100	59.342700
Argentina	Peso	0.312495	0.337838	18.544300
Brazil	Real	0.311338	0.336587	18.475600
Denmark	Kroner	0.134665	0.145586	7.991400
India	Rupee	0.020174	0.021810	1.197200
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.243449	0.263193	14.446900
Mexico	New Peso	0.084093	0.090913	4.990300
New Zealand	Dollar	0.524545	0.567086	31.127900
Norway	Kroner	0.121228	0.131060	7.194000
Pakistan	Rupee	0.016009	0.017307	0.950000
South Africa	Rand	0.127124	0.137434	7.543900
Korea	Won	0.000786	0.000850	0.046700
Sweden	Kroner	0.109087	0.117934	6.473500
Syria	Pound	0.022024	0.023810	1.307000
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.027173	0.029377	1.612500
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000580	0.000627	0.034400

Gov't approves transfer of power plant to Panay

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE CABINET-LEVEL Investment Coordination Committee has approved a P534.87-million project of National Power Corp. to transfer the 110-megawatt Pinamucan diesel-fired power plant to Dingle in Iloilo, Panay, to avert a power crisis in the Visayan region.

The project is expected to generate more job opportunities and spur economic growth, the ICC lead agency National Economic and Development Authority (Neda) said yesterday.

The Dingle Diesel Power Project II is also expected to beef up the existing Dingle Power Plant and address the projected power shortfall on Panay Island by 2004.

In order to address the Panay Island's power requirements, Napocor had proposed several options to immediately address the projected power deficit.

Aside from the Pinamucan power plant, the other facilities earlier considered by Napocor for transfer to Dingle are the: 78.4-MW Bauang power plant and the 60-MW Bataan gas turbine.

However, the transfer of the Pinamucan plant was found to be the least costly among the three.

The project will involve the dismantling, crating, hauling, reassembly, erection, testing and commissioning of the diesel engines and associated plant auxiliaries that will be transferred from the Pinamucan site in Batangas to the new site. It would also involve the procurement of new transformer, substation equipment and other associated facilities for interconnection with the existing 138 kV Substation in Dingle, Iloilo.

The necessary funding for the transfer of the power plants would come from Napocor's internal cash generation.

The ICC said the transfer should be completed in eight months and the project operational by April 2004.

The Pinamucan plant is only used during peak hours when the Luzon grid needs additional supply of electricity. Upon transfer to Dingle, the plant can be used as a baseload plant or one of the main power suppliers for the Visayan region.

A number of private companies have recently expressed interest to build additional power plants in the Visayas to help mitigate the looming power supply shortfall.

Pagcor, Mirant units most profitable companies in '02

By Elena R. Torrijos

PHILIPPINE Amusement and Gaming Corp. topped the list of the country's most profitable companies in 2002 with earnings of P11.03 billion or 14.7 percent higher than the previous year's level, data from the Securities and Exchange Commission showed.

Power firms Mirant (Phils.) Corp. and Mirant Sual Corp. came in second and third with profits of P10.687 billion and P6.963 billion.

Ayala-controlled Globe Telecom Inc. registered a 59-percent increase in profit in 2002 to P6.84 billion to rank number four.

Mirant Pagbilao Corp. saw its profit fall 13.8 percent last year to PP6.73 billion to settle for the fifth slot.

San Miguel Corp. posted a 2.5-percent increase in net income last year to P6.63 billion to secure sixth place.

Multinational Nestlé Philippines Inc. was seventh as its profit last year surged 39.1 percent to P5.22 billion.

Bank of the Philippine Islands came in at number eight last year with P5.17 billiion in profit.

Citibank N.A. took the ninth slot with profit of P4.8 billion. First Gas Power Corp. rounded out the top 10 list with a net income of P4.66 billion last year.

In terms of sales, Manila Electric Co. was number one again with P123.34 billion last year.

Petron Corp. was second with sales of P92.74 billion, a notch higher than its third-place ranking the previous year.

Toshiba Information Equipment Phils. Inc. improved its ranking to third in sales from number seven as sales picked up 68.7 percent to P90.9 billion.

Pilipinas Shell Petroleum saw its sales drop 10 percent last year to P86.45 billion, pushing the company down to fourth from second.

Despite a 4.2-percent sales decline to P55.82 billion last year, Caltex (Phils.) Inc. saw its ranking inch up to number five from six.

Wistron Infocomm (Phils.) Corp. reported a 22.9-percent rise in sales to P51.74 billion last year to take the sixth slot or four places higher than the year before. Nestlé Phils. was number seven with P51.72 billion in sales last year, also up from eighth.

PLDT and Globe Telecom followed with sales of P44.85 billion and P43.368 billion.

SMC was 10th with sales of P43 billion.

ERC readies rules on sale of transmission assets

THE ENERGY Regulatory Commission is set to promulgate in mid-September the guidelines for the classification of the National Transmission Corp.'s assets, which would enable Transco to sell lines worth about P8 billion.

ERC Chair Manuel Sanchez said in an interview, the regulator approved yesterday a "consolidated" set of guidelines that took into consideration comments and suggestions from interested parties.

"The guidelines would be posted on (the ERC's website at www.erc.gov.ph) for all the stakeholders to see and would probably be promulgated after two weeks," Sanchez said.

The official explained that the guidelines provided the classification of Tranco's assets according to function.

"Lines used to deliver electricity from power generators to distribution utilities would be regarded as transmission assets. Those used to get power from the utilities to end-users would be classified as sub-transmission assets."

Sanchez said this approach veered away from the traditional classification using the capacity of the lines in kilovolts.

Under this system, sub-transmission assets (STA) are lines that could carry a load between 69 kilovolts and 230 kv, depending on what load the main transmission lines in their respective areas could carry.

For instance, a 230-kv line is considered an STA in Luzon although it is rated as a transmission line in the Visayas.

Early this year, Transco officials said the state firm was readying to sell 23 such assets but held it off due to the ERC's moves for a new classification system.

In an accomplishment report for 2002, Transco said it was exploring possibilities of sale with 15 of 45 distribution utilities who expressed interest in acquiring the STAs. *Ronnel W. Domingo*

A Heart Attack Is FATAL
BE READY IF IT STRIKES!
• Handy and Portable
• Ideal for travel
• Imported from U.S.A.
OXYLITE PORTABLE OXYGEN
STAR HILLS PAMPANGA 2nd Floor (45) 636-3513
SM MANILA 5TH Floor 484-1471
FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
SM MEGAMALL 5th Fr., Bldg. A 635-04-36
SM FAIRVIEW Basement 4 18 75 40
SM NORTH EDSA Car Park Plaza 453-3326
SM SOUTHMALL Basement 807-15-65
ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635 5061
CEBU 262 32 39

NETAFIM DEMONSTRATION FARM
OPEN HOUSE EVERY SATURDAY
FROM 9AM - 5PM
PLEASE CALL US
TEL.:02-6872051/52 CELL: 0917-8362655

HMR group
HMR AUCTION
Viewing Date: September 5, 2003 (9:00 AM to 5:00 PM) • Auction Date: September 6, 2003 (10:30 AM)
Refundable Cash Deposit of P5,000 Upon Registration
Dr. A. Santos Ave., Sucat, Parañaque City
SUCAT WAREHOUSE AUCTION EVERY SATURDAY 10:30 AM
WAREHOUSE AUCTION
COMPUTER EQUIPMENT & PERIPHERALS
- Computer Monitors
- HP Laserjet Printers
- HP Scanners
- Keyboards
- Computer Sets
- Printer Cables
- UPS Units
- Mobile Pedestal W/ Drawers
- Canon Printers
- IBM Printers

KITCHEN & RESTAURANT EQUIPMENT
- S/S Dishwashing Sink W/ Grease Trap
- Working Tables
- S/S Chef Table
- Sushi Bar Chiller W/ 5 Trays
- 3 Burner Pressure Stoves
- 1 Small Low Pressure Stove
- S/S Table W/ Round Stand
- Stainless Steel Mobile Carts

HOUSEHOLD/ OFFICE FURNITURE
- Executive Chairs
- Guest Chairs
- Wooden Chairs
- Swivel Chairs
- Laminated Office Tables
- Wooden Tables
- Filing Cabinets
- Visitors Chairs W/ Cu[illegible]
- Wooden Cabinets
- Wall Lamps
- Rattan Seat W/ Cushion
- Entertainment Racks
- Bar Stools (Asstd. Color)

INDUSTRIAL ITEMS
- Crossman Socket Wrench Set
- Cable Puller
- Water Pumps
- Impact Drills
- Angle Grinders
- Surge Suppressors
- Elevator Cable
- Motor Pumps
- Exhaust Blower W/ Motor

ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT
- Telephone Units
- VHS Players
- Emergency Lights
- Radio Cassette Recorders
- Air Conditioning Units
- Washing Machines
- Microwave Ovens
- TV Monitors
- Refillable Epson Ribbons
- Hand Dryers
- Bundy Clock
- Hubs
- Electronic Parts
- PABX

OTHER ITEMS
- Fiberglass Bath Tubs
- Speaker Wires
- Linen And Blankets
- Seat Covers
- Assorted Sizes Steel Drums
- Assorted Ceramic Figurines
- Helmets
- Cribs
- Blinds
- Soap
- Bed Mattresses
- Cellphone Accessories
- Weighing Scale

WE ACCEPT ITEMS FOR AUCTION
For inquiries call us at Tel. Nos. 825-5472 to 74/825-5476
D.L. 825-5479/fax, e-mail: auctionphil@hmrgroup.com
Local e-mail: auction@hmrac.com.ph
Website: www.hmrac.com.ph
OVER 1000 LOTS TO BID

2301 Civic Place
Flexible office studios

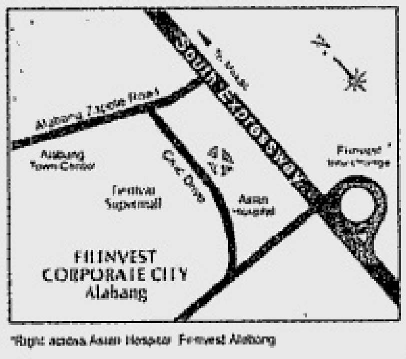
2301 Civic Place offers compact office studios ideal for entrepreneurs and doctors alike. It's uniquely a workplace with the comforts of home.

Prime Location - situated in a high-growth area in Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, right across Asian Hospital

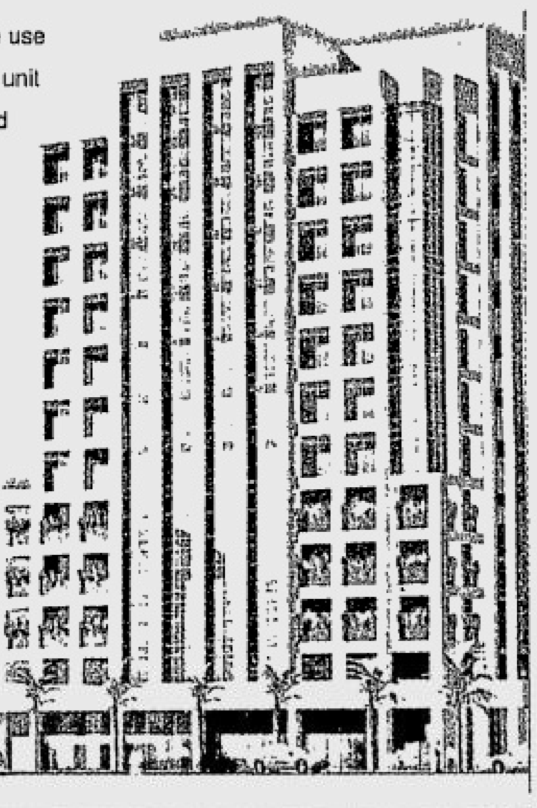
Flexible - ideal for office or home office use

Affordable - as low as P1.5 million per unit

Risk-free - secure investment managed by a reputable property developer



*Right across Asian Hospital Filinvest Alabang



FILINVEST ALABANG, INC.
850-2301, 809-6517 to 22
E-mail: 2301@filinvestcorpcity.com - Website: www.filinvestcorpcity.com

BREITLING
1884
INSTRUMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS
CHRONOMAT
LUCERNE
Glorietta 4, Ayala Center • Level 2, Shangri-La Plaza Mall
WWW.BREITLING.COM

Mas probinsyano pa kaysa sayo.
May higit na 6,800 agent locations sa buong Pilipinas. Mas marami pa kaysa mga fastfood outlets!
WESTERN UNION | MONEY TRANSFER®
The fastest way to send and receive money worldwide.℠

ALL DIGITAL SOUND
AYALA CINEMAS
PRESENTS

G1 GLORIETTA 1	G4 GLORIETTA 4	GB1 GREENBELT 1	GB3 GREENBELT 3	ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1 PINAY PIE	1 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN	ArtFilm 1 PINAY PIE 12:00 2:15 4:30 6:45 9:00	THX GUARANTEED SEATS 1 LEGALLY BLONDE 2 1:30 3:30 5:30 7:30 9:30 11:30	THX 1 S.W.A.T.
2 S.W.A.T.	2 PINAY PIE	2 S.W.A.T. 12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00	THX GUARANTEED SEATS 2 S.W.A.T. 1:50 4:15 6:40 9:05 11:30	2 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
3 LEGALLY BLONDE 2	THX GUARANTEED SEATS 3 S.W.A.T 12:30, 3:00 5:30 8:00 10:30	BEAUTY & THE BEAST (THE MUSICAL PLAY) Sept. 18 - 7PM	GUARANTEED SEATS 3 THE ITALIAN JOB 2:00 4:20 6:40 9:00 11:20	3 PINAY PIE
4 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN	4 THE ITALIAN JOB		GUARANTEED SEATS 4 SPY KIDS 3D 1:30 3:30 5:30 7:30 9:30 11:30	4 SINBAD
	5 SINBAD		GUARANTEED SEATS 5 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 12:40 [illegible]	5 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
	6 LEGALLY BLONDE 2			
	7 SPY KIDS 3D			

For sreening times, call 729-7777. Movies are subject to change without prior notice. Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 and send to 2333. Or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING
EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1	ITALIAN JOB
2	SWAT
3	SINBAD
4	LEGALLY BLONDE-2
5	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
6	SWAT
7	SPY KIDS-3D
8	FINDING NEMO
9	PINAY PIE
10	PINAY PIE

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1	RESERVE
2	RESERVE
3	RESERVE
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6	RESERVE
Golden Pearl THX	RESERVE

Masagana CINEMA ①②④⑤
(Pasay) tel 833.3290, 833.3274

1	PINAY PIE
2	SWAT
3	SPY KIDS 3D

st rmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Mandaluyong) tel 724.4986

1	PINAY PIE
2	SWAT
3	LEGALLY BLONDE-2
4	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
5	KEKA

METROPOLIS st r
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Alabang) tel 850.4285

1	NEW BLOOD
2	BIGAY HILIG
3	PINAY PIE
4	SWAT
5	LEGALLY BLONDE-2
6	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN

st r
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Las Pinas) tel 873.5004

1	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
2	VISIBLE SECRET

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) TEL. 893-4225, 892-2603

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENTLEMEN
2	NOON AT NGAYON

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC.
tel 930.9515

1
2
3

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) TEL. 776-74-21

1	SWAT
2	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
3	KIRIDA
4	

GOTESCO CINEMA

Gotesco City
(Manila) tel 734.8588

1	PINAY PIE
4	RESERVE
5	SWAT
6	SPY KIDS-3D
7	LEGALLY BLONDE-2
8	SINBAD
9	PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN

Gotesco Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2	RESERVE

Gotesco Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 365.7928

1	SINBAD
2	PINAY PIE
3	PINAY PIE
4	SWAT
5	NEW BLOOD
6	PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
7	LEGALLY BLONDE-2
8	NENA INOCENTE
9	SPY KIDS-3D

Gotesco Commonwealth
tel 951.0082

1	LEGALLY BLONDE-2
2	SWAT
3	PINAY PIE
4	PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
5	NENA INOCENTE

Gotesco Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	PINAY PIE
2	LEGALLY BLONDE-2
3	PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
4	NENA INOCENTE
5	SWAT

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	RESERVE

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	RESERVE

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson	
Lords	
Jennet	RESERVE

VARRETHAC
Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	SPY KIDS-3D
2	PINAY PIE
3	SWAT
4	LEGALLY BLONDE

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1	SWAT
2	PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
3	LEGALLY BLONDE-2
4	PINAY PIE
5	KEKA

FRC Cinema
(Talaba Bacoor Cavite)

1	RESERVE
2	RESERVE

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 879.2029

1	LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENTLEMEN
2	PINAY PIE

THE CENTER OF ENTERTAINMENT
Araneta

MALL CINEPLEX 7
tel 911.3101 loc. 821 8242 8400

1	NOON AT NGAYON
2	PINAY PIE
3	PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
4	SWAT
5	SPY KIDS-3D
6	SINBAD
7	LEGALLY BLONDE-2

FarmersPlaza CINEMAS
tel 911.3101 loc. 821 8242 8400

1	RESERVE
2	RESERVE

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
TEL. (049) 837-0926

1	MOTEL
2	PINAY PIE
3	SWAT

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	SINBAD
2	PINAY PIE
3	SWAT
4	LEGALLY BLONDE-2

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	PINAY PIE
2	SWAT
3	LEGALLY BLONDE-2
4	SINBAD

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	NOON FINDING NEMO
2	PINAY PIE
3	
4	

Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729

1	PINAY PIE
2	BAD BOYS-2
3	A WALKING IN RENO
4	FINDING NEMO

Magic Star Cinema
(Tarlac City) tel (045) 611.4305

1	PINAY PIE
2	
3	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1	SWAT
2	BIGAY HILIG
3	ALIPIN NG ALIW
4	PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1	SWAT
2	PINAY PIE
3	LEGALLY BLONDE-2
4	MOTEL
5	SINBAD

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	LEGALLY BLONDE-2
2	MOTEL
3	RESERVE

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249.2558

1	LEGALLY BLONDE-2
2	PINAY PIE
3	FINDING NEMO

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283

1	A VIEW FROM THE TOP
2	PINAY PIE
3	FINDING NEMO
4	NAKED WEAPON

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1	RESERVE
2	RESERVE

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	MOTEL
2	PINAY PIE
3	RESERVE

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	ALEX & EMMA
2	DARK WATER
3	SPY KIDS-3D
4	PINAY PIE

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045)887-5001 to 03

1	SWAT
2	PINAY PIE
3	LEGALLY BLONDE-2
4	SINBAD

Cine Nepo Mall
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887-0121

1	PINAY PIE
2	SINBAD
3	SWAT
4	LEGALLY BLONDE-2

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY dts SDDS

Festival
Level 4
Festival Supermall
Filinvest - Alabang
Tel 85035-71 to 72
Schedule subject to change without prior notice

S.W.A.T.
NOW SHOWING

SM CINEMA
SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 833-9999
NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR
4173888

1	ITALIAN JOB
2	WWW.XXX.COM
3	S.W.A.T.
4	LEGALLY BLONDE 2
5	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
6	PINAY PIE
7	SPY KIDS 3-D
8	SINBAD

SM CENTERPOINT
7149522 -7161416

1	PINAY PIE
2	ITALIAN JOB
3	S.W.A.T.
4	WWW.XXX.COM
5	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
6	NEW BLOOD
7	SPY KIDS 3-D
8	SINBAD
9	LEGALLY BLONDE 2
10	LXG

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

1	SPY KIDS 3-D
2	VISIBLE SECRET
3	ITALIAN JOB
4	S.W.A.T.
5	SINBAD
6	PINAY PIE
7	FINDING NEMO
8	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
9	LEGALLY BLONDE 2
10	PINAY PIE
11	LXG
12	WWW.XXX.COM

SM CITY MANILA
5239240

1	LEGALLY BLONDE 2
2	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
3	SINBAD
4	S.W.A.T.
5	SPY KIDS 3-D
6	S.W.A.T.
7	WWW.XXX.COM
8	LXG
9	PINAY PIE
10	NEW BLOOD
11	ITALIAN JOB
12	PINAY PIE

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401

1 *FOR SEAT RESERVATION, CALL 6830038*	CLOSED
2	SINBAD
3	S.W.A.T.
4	LEGALLY BLONDE 2
5	FINDING NEMO
6	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
7	LXG
8	SPY KIDS 3-D
9	PINAY PIE
10	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
11	ITALIAN JOB
12	NEW BLOOD

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452

1	NEW BLOOD
2	SINBAD
3	WWW.XXX.COM
4	PINAY PIE
5	LEGALLY BLONDE 2
6	S.W.A.T.
7	SPY KIDS 3-D
8	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN

SM SOUTHMALL
8066888

1	SINBAD
2	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
3	S.W.A.T.
4	LEGALLY BLONDE 2
5	ITALIAN JOB
6	NEW BLOOD
7	PINAY PIE
8	S.W.A.T.
9	SPY KIDS 3-D
10	WWW.XXX.COM

SM CITY CEBU
2313876

1	S.W.A.T.
2	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
3	ITALIAN JOB
4	SINBAD
5	VIEW FROM THE TOP
6	THE DEBUT
7	PINAY PIE
8	S.W.A.T.

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422

1	THE DEBUT
2	RESERVED
3	PINAY PIE
4	FINDING NEMO
5	SINBAD
6	ITALIAN JOB
7	RESERVED
8	NAKED WEAPON

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015

1	S.W.A.T.
2	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
3	LEGALLY BLONDE 2
4	WWW.XXX.COM
5	SINBAD
6	PINAY PIE

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975

1	SINBAD
2	PINAY PIE
3	S.W.A.T.
4	LEGALLY BLONDE 2

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302

1	S.W.A.T.
2	WWW.XXX.COM
3	PINAY PIE
4	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN

SM CITY DAVAO
2976998

1	ITALIAN JOB
2	FINDING NEMO
3	PINAY PIE
4	PINAY PIE
5	SINBAD
6	THE DEBUT

SM BICUTAN
776-3055

1	S.W.A.T.
2	PINAY PIE
3	LEGALLY BLONDE 2
4	SINBAD

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
859-2884

1	ITALIAN JOB
2	WWW.XXX.COM
3	PINAY PIE
4	BANGKOK HAUNTED

THE PODIUM CINEMA
633-8976

1 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
11:00 FS/11:10 MF/1:05/3:00/5:05/7:00/9:00/10:35
LFS/11:00 LMF/12:35 END

2 S.W.A.T.
11:00 FS/11:20 MF/1:40/4:00/6:20/8:40/10:35
LFS/11:00 LMF/12:55 END

LATE NIGHT SCREENING DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS
Matinee : P100.00 • Screening until 5pm • Monday thru Friday
Regular Rate P120.00 • After 5pm • Saturday • Sunday • Holidays (Reserved Seating) 6338976

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS
@ Robinsons Malls
NOW SHOWING

Galleria
632-9115 TO 16
633-7641 LOC. 195

THX /All Digital

1 S.W.A.T 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30 THX	4 THE SINBAD-LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SEAS 10:50, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:50
2 S.W.A.T 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00	5 PINAY PIE 10:35, 12:50, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50
3 LEGALLY BLONDE 2 10:50, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:50	6 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
7 ITALIAN JOB 12.05, 2.15, 4:25, 6:40, 9:00	9 SPY KIDS 3D 10:35, 12.50, 3.05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50
8 LXG 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00	10 WWW.XXX.COM

MATINEE PRICE: P90 THX cinema P75 1level cinema
Mon.- Fri. / 10am - 4pm (EXCEPT HOLIDAYS

Ermita
536-717809 TO 13

1 S.W.A.T - 10:10, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
2 Pirates of the Carribean - 10:20, 1:10, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40, 12:00
3 WWW.XXX.COM
4 SINBAD - 10:15, 12:05, 2:00, 3:55, 5:50, 7:45, 9:40
5 SPY KIDS 3D - 10:30, 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45
6 PINAY PIE - 10:20, 12:35, 2:50, 5:05, 7:20, 9:40
7 LEGALLY BLONDE - 2 10:15, 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:40

Metro East
682-8193; 682-8199; 682-8280

1	ITALIAN JOB
2	S.W.A.T.
3	LEGALLY BLONDE 2
4	PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
5	SPY KIDS 3D
6	PINAY PIE
7	SINBAD-LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SEAS
8	WWW.XXX.COM

Novaliches
935-3229/31

1	SINBAD--LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SEAS
2	ITALIAN JOB
3	WWW.XXX.COM
4	S.W.A.T.
5	SPY KIDS 3D
6	PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
7	LEGALLY BLONDE 2
8	PINAY PIE

Malabon
288-0985
288-2575

1	WWW.XXX.COM
2	PINAY PIE
3	S.W.A.T.
4	LEGALLY BLONDE 2

Star Mills
(045) 875-1927
(045) 961-5270

1	LEGALLY BLONDE 2
2	WWW.XXX.COM
3	PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
4	PINAY PIE
5	S.W.A.T.
6	SINBAD-LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SEAS

Imus
(046) 471-8188
(046) 875-5858

1	S.W.A.T
2	PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
3	SINBAD-LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SEAS
4	LEGALLY BLONDE 2
5	PINAY PIE
6	WWW.XXX.COM

Sta. Rosa
(049) 837-09-07

1	PINAY PIE
2	S.W.A.T.
3	SINBAD-LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SEAS
4	LEGALLY BLONDE 2
5	PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN

Bacolod
(034) 441-0458-59

1	ITALIAN JOB
2	FINDING NEMO
3	PINAY PIE
4	ALEX AND EMMA
5	WAKING UP IN RENO
6	NENA INOSENTE

Iloilo
(033) 336-8070/78

1	ITALIAN JOB
2	VIEW FROM THE TOP
3	PINAY PIE
4	SINBAD--LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SEAS
5	WAKING UP IN RENO
6	NAKED WEAPON

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

People, Events & Products

E-mail: pr_pep@inquirer.com.ph
aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

Editor **Aries Espinosa**

Sogo showcases fabulous wedding presents

ALL newlyweds-to-be aspire for a blissful wedding celebration - perfect, elegant, fabulous yet economical. The hosts worry about all the details while the invited guests are concerned about shopping for the best gifts possible: practical, memorable, suitable yet affordable.

Sogo Home and Office Center, a one-stop shop for home and office appliances gives everyone the convenience and advantage of hassle-free gift shopping through its newest service - The Wedding Gift Registry.

The registry showcases varieties of gifts from furniture to small and big appliances. A perfect shopping spree tailor-fitted to soon-to-be-wed couples who wish to receive wonderful presents on the day of their wedding.

All items are offered at the best prices with partner shops offering fabulous discounts, freebies and perks.

Aside from the committed benefits and privileges, registrants can exchange the identical gifts received (if bought from a Sogo store) and replace them with another gift of their choice.

Don't let this opportunity pass. Get amazing discounts while you lie in the comfort of a body massage and facial treatments through the cozy atmosphere of The Spa and Discovery Spa. Savor the goodness of that superb cake and marvel at the flower designs from Flower Factory. Enjoy hefty discounts on the hip, chic and trendy leather collections from EP Lacarel and Florsheim boutiques. How about that in-vogue makeover from Hairworks Salon and brilliant arrangements and concepts from Grand Events and Ebony Ivory Video and Photo Studio? All these are yours once you are a registrant of Sogo's Wedding Gift Registry.

The registry is now open at participating Sogo branches located at Glorietta 1, Robinsons Galleria, Festival Supermall and AliMall for free. For your appliance and furniture needs, also visit Sogo Robinsons Place - Novaliches and Tutuban Centermall branches or you may call 867-2352, 632-0672, 850-3539 or 912-6604.

MABUHAY AWARDS 2003 LAUNCH

The 'Mabuhay Awards', the most prestigious service excellence awards in the hospitality industry was launched at the Edsa Shangri-La Hotel last Aug. 14. The officers of the Association of Human Resources Managers in the Hospitality Industry (Ahrm) were present to orient this year's board of judges in the strict selection criteria. The Mabuhay Awards night is scheduled on Oct. 27 at the Edsa Shangri-La Hotel. Shown are the judges (seated from left): Fr. Joemar Sibug OP, rector of Collegio de San Juan de Letran; Luz Filmer, executive director of Punlaan School; Nars Lim, managing director of Asia Pacific Projects Inc.; Edith Lotta (representing Undersecretary Evelyn Pantig) of the Department of Tourism; (standing from left) Rod Cornejo, assistant to the president of GMA 7; Gerry Plana, executive director of the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines; Ret. Gen. Roberto Santiago, general manager of the Camp Aguinaldo Golf and Country Club; and Donald Patrick Lim, AVP-Classified Ads of the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

FEDFIRE GIVES CITATION

The Federation of Fil-Chi Fire Prevention and Civic Welfare Association (Fedfire) recently awarded a plaque of citation to Caloocan City fire marshal Major Agapito Nacario for his honesty in the performance of his duty. During a fire operation in the said area, a huge amount of money was recovered and returned to the owner of the razed establishment. Shown in photo are Vicente Lim, president of Fedfire and Nelson Yau, vice president handing the award to Major Agapito Nacario.

Undernourished students in QCHS need a helping hand

DR. JOSE P. Rizal said that education is the best weapon against poverty. Ironically, it is poverty that prevents Filipinos to earn education. The symbol of sacrifice just to earn secondary education is dramatically portrayed by economically handicapped students in Quezon City High School (QCHS) who come to school with empty stomachs.

It is a normal day in QCHS that a student "collapses" simply because of lack of strength due to hunger. Under weight and under height, they can't think well because of less nourishment for their body and brain. It is a good thing they can still smile.

To solve this problem, the board of directors of Quezon City Alumni Association headed by newly elected president Isidro Agdeppa Jr. passed a board resolution authorizing Class '69 to launch a fund campaign that will support the on-going feeding program.

The fund campaign includes the launching of a painting and photo exhibit of well-known artist/photojournalist Nonoy Duran entitled "A painting is worth a thousand meals". An art patron's donation will have equivalent value of a painting or photo that will surely feed more hungry mouths. The beneficiaries are hundreds of students that need sustenance for their healthy life.

Donors can contact Cito Innumerable at tel. 920-7997 or 0917-8340544, Isidro Agdeppa at tel. 938-4951 or 0917-8340544, or Sid Valencia at tel. 823-1813 or 0920-7662754.

BANCO DE ORO, PHILAM PLANS MOA SIGNING

Banco de Oro's (BDO) cash management services group recently signed an Over-the-Counter (OTC) Bills Payment contract with Philam Plans Inc. Under the arrangement, Philam's planholders can now remit their premium payments through any of the 127 Banco de Oro branches. Philam Plans Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Philam Life, is the largest pre-need company in the country. Last year, it registered P8.14 billion in gross contract sales. In photo (standing from left) are: Maritie Pobre, senior manager financial institutions (BDO); Melissa Agarao, senior manager treasury department (Philam Plans); Jones Diokno, SAVP, cash management services (BDO); Jim Nasol, VP cash management services (BDO). Seated from left are: Ma. Melinda Bustamante, FVP finance (Philam Plans); Marty Escalona, FVP financial institutions (BDO); Teresita Salonga, SVP/treasurer (Philam Life); Ismael Estela, SVP transaction banking group (BDO).

FHM COVERGIRL GRACES JAG

Rain or shine, fans of all ages gathered at the Jag Jeans boutique at Robinsons Metro East to get up close and personal with new screen vixen FHM covergirl Juliana Palermo. Juliana also writes a monthly column in FHM. Fans had Juliana sign their copies of FHM, which was also available at the Jag boutique. Photo shows Juliana posing with a fan.

Shell launches new motor oil

PILIPINAS Shell Petroleum Corp. launches the new environment-friendly Shell 2T Triple Low Smoke (LS) motor oil, from the makers of Shell 2T Triple - the number 1 oil among tricycle drivers, specially formulated for two-stroke motor engines that gives lesser smoke emissions.

Shell 2T Triple LS has Emission Control Additives that give superior cleanliness for low smoke emissions to ensure substantial improvement in air quality for clean and healthy environment. Aside from its compliance to the Clean Air Act requirements, Shell 2T Triple LS is also Jaso FC rated, the superior in exhaust smoke index and blocking index, which gives a cleaner burn, hence a cleaner engine emitting lesser smoke.

"Shell 2T Triple LS engine oil is Pilipinas Shell's response to the Clean Air Act emission standards that brought concerns to more than a million tricycle drivers in the country. This is our way of continuously upholding our thrust on sustainable development by developing socially and environmentally-responsible quality products for our customers," says Pilipinas Shell motorcyclist marketing manager Serge Bernal.

Shell 2T Triple LS comes in a clear 200 ml. bottle in green fluid reflecting the environment-friendly oil components of this motorcycle oil. This is initially available in Metro Manila Shell service stations.

ROTARY CLUB OF MAKATI DASMARIÑAS FUND RAISING CONCERT

The Route 70 band will perform in the fundraising concert of the Rotary Club of Makati Dasmariñas this Friday, Sept. 5, at the Makati Sports Club Grand Ballroom at 8:00 p.m. Proceeds of the concert will be for the benefit of the 'Balangkat ng Kabuhayan', a livelihood and health care project for Barangay Bagbag, Rosario, Cavite. Major sponsors of this event are Rustan's Essenses, Smart Communication, and Philippine Veterans Bank.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION HOLDS 4-DAY SEMINAR

A four-day supervisory development course was conducted by the Civil Service Commission to 38 participants from Dep Ed Rizal headed by Dr. Edith Doblada, schools division superintendent last Aug. 26 to 29 at the Multi-Purpose Bldg. Dep Ed Rizal, Cabrera Road, Kaytikling, Taytay Rizal. The seminar was aimed to enhance the performance of first line supervisors in their managerial function.

Product FILES

Corporate chic

ESTABLISH elegance and corporate detail with Manels executive shoes and other office essentials.

Clips

Affi seminar series

LEARN more secrets of success of the food industry, including the time-tested and modern approaches, like growing your business through franchising, listen to the experts when they share real-life experiences, strategies and tips at the seminar series of the Association of Filipino Franchisers Inc. (Affi), slated on Sept. 4 to 6, as part of the Asia Food Expo 2003. Watch out for the seminar on "Franchise Management, Marketing and Legal Issues" which will be conducted on Sept. 6 at the Seminar Room 1 of the World Trade Center, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City. This is the venue for the country's biggest and all-encompassing exposition on food processing, packaging and handling machinery, equipment and technology. For the seminar fee and other details and inquiries, kindly call tel. no. 532-8386 (c/o Josel) or 892-9535 (c/o Janice).

Play Box opens today at Dream Zone

PLAY Box, the first day care center located inside an amusement center, opens today at Dream Zone in Robinsons Place Manila. To celebrate its opening, Dream zone has lined up a series of activities for children and families. On Sept. 7 at 2 p.m., master storyteller Kuya Bodjie will regale the young and old alike with his interesting stories. Animated balloons will be given to the first 100 kids. On Sept. 14, a caricature with kids activity will be held at 2 p.m. Also on the 14th is the interactive storytelling by teacher Claudette, former assistant professor at the UP Diliman College of Home Economics. There will also be a magic show. On Sept. 21, a bilingual storytelling (in English and Chinese) will be held. For more information about Play Box, visit Dream Zone at the 3rd level of Robinsons Place Manila or call 302-0084.

Notre Dame of Manila Batch 1978

NOTRE Dame of Manila Batch 1978 will celebrate their 25th Anniversary on Sept. 6. The day will begin with a luncheon to be hosted by the celebrating batch in honor of its former teachers. Mass will follow at 5 p.m. at the school grounds to be celebrated by Rev. Fr. Jong Sabandal. A short program hosted by Arnel Ignacio will precede a fun filled evening of live music by the Traffic Jam band. All Notre Dame alumni are invited to come.

Fr. Corsie Legaspi at The Heritage Park

FR. CORSIE Legaspi will conduct a lecture entitled "Dysfunctionality and the Family" at The Heritage Park Chapel on Sept. 6 starting at 1 p.m. Fr. Corsie is known for his healing service to cancer, paralyzed and other patients afflicted with illnesses. The event will start with a mass, followed by a lecture and a healing service. Those who are interested to attend the lecture and healing service may register by calling The Heritage Park at tel. nos. 845-2341 and 845-2342. A registration booth will also be opened on the day of the event from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Food booths will be installed near the venue. Located at the heart of Fort Bonifacio, The Heritage Park is very accessible from Quezon City, Makati and the South via C-5 and Edsa. It is 5 minutes away from Manila Polo Club, the Manila Golf Club and Forbes park.

HOPE AND MORE MEGA MILLION STAKES 1ST GRAND DRAW WINNERS

Left photo shows Maria Christina Alcantara, 32 years old from Cainta, Rizal, and her husband proudly showing off their brand-new Toyota Altis while right photo shows Perla Abucay, 65 years old from Taal Batangas, receiving her perfect birthday gift, also a brand-new Toyota Altis, which both winners won in the Hope and More Mega Million Stakes First Grand Draw held on June 28, at NBN Channel 4.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, HUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
NATIONAL
CLASSIFIEDS
The Widest Reaching Classifieds

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2003

RATES
P245 per column centimeter — P75 per line
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections

Mondays to Saturdays	Sundays
12:00 noon	12:00 noon
Day before publication	every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

RAPID Tx VD-STD
Ex. SWEAT PIMPLES KELOID
ALLERGY WARTS SKIN PEEL
15 Annapolis Greenhills
Call 7276124 - 25 9am-7pm

PERSONAL

ARCHITECTS

DESIGN/RENDER/BUILD
9248455 • 09174339264 MAR

CONSTRUCTION/ DESIGN

WELLHOME VENTURES & DEV.
ATTN: LOT OWNERS
HOUSE CONSTRUCTION
BANK/IN-HOUSE FINANCING
OWNS 3 H' WARES
3241545 3241546 3615551
Binan (049)839-0802
Batangas (043)312-2202

COSMETOLOGY

BEAUTY TALKS
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
SEPT. 20 SAT. 1-5PM
8956031 L2011/8971832

MASSAGE

02 3233269 Ask BOJO

2581378 LICENSED GUYS

Akhin Thai Masg 50% Off Mla 8347357 Cebu 032-2532597

ERICK 0919-366322

Mr BODY PHYSIQUE MASSAGE 11A Kamias QC 4350978

JAMES MALE 24HRS SERVICE 8518650 ; 0920-6274243

MALE 16 PALANAN 7320659

MASS M/F 0919-2714842 ANJO

THAI Msge Lic 0919-4743278

4587327 WIND OFF M/F

REFLEXOLOGY

Edward 7289285 09195367404

FEELS GOOD 4127758

H-H-MS MALE 7314018

Wizard Massage 4213197/4227303

TUTORIAL LESSONS

NIHONGGO LANG. COURSE 5271590

FRENCH LANGUAGE COURSE 5271590

LIGHT 5268216 / 5301315

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

Bestmaids 4146800/ 7111602

EXP. MAIDS w/NBI-9950291

GCM AGENCY
Good Caring Maids
5359317, 0917-6297203

Goma w/NBI MAID4155945

Help Agency 532-1947 • 532-8376

MAID COOK YAYA 7328405

MAIDS*MWIFE*TUTOR*BOY SEC*Driver9268984/4331431

NEED MAIDS?
781-9453 • 0917-369-17-49

ANGEL'S HANDS
w/ NBI&BI 4213253 / 4213874

TRUSTED QUALITY MAIDS
W/ NBI & BI 421-3828

LIPAT BAHAY

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

LBAHAY 7113540

L-BAHAY 712-16-92

P1000/TRIP 742-14-57

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

ALABANG

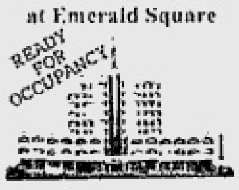
AYALA ALABANG
2STY POOL 600m² 16M NEG
DIR. BUYERS 0917-7310820

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

QUEZON CITY

The
TOWER
at Emerald Square



EMERALD TWR
COR TUAZON &
J.P. RIZAL ST.
PROJ. 4, QUEZON CITY
NEAR U.P. • ATENEO
MIRIAM COLLEGE
OFF./RES'L. CONDO
SALE OR LEASE TO OWN
P1.4M - UP EASY TERMS
ONLY 100T TO MOVE IN
437-1549 • 421-3105

One BEATRIZ Tower
1st Class COMM'L OFFICE RES'L CONDO
AURORA / LAUAN ST., PROJ. 3, Q.C

READY FOR OCCUPANCY
FOR SALE OR LEASE

Nr. ATENEO * UP * MIRIAM *
KOSTKA * PSBA * NCBA
1ST CLASS AMENITIES
R-Top S.Pool, Gym, Sauna, Etc.
W/ X'LENT VIEW 360°
MOVE-IN FOR
ONLY 10% DP
TO SEE... IS TO BELIEVE
ROOMS ALSO AVAILABLE FOR RENT (DAILY/WEEKLY/MONTHLY) CALL
MASTER C RE-DE, INC.
TEL# 913-5223/921-4883
922-4464/913-7632

HOUSE & LOT

MANILA

NR LA SALLE
8newTwnhse/3stry/3br/3tb/grge
P3.295M 8903461 loc 34

QUEZON CITY

•Sikatuna9210255/9219967•

RIZAL

NR ORTIGAS EXT
New French 1½Story 3BR
maid's2crport w/view Lot:
150m² Hse:130m² T948-8240

CAVITE

H/L 4 Sale w/Sari-sari store fully furn. San Rafael St. Exec. Vill. Lot 1 Blk 10 Phase 2. Bacoor Cavite CP-0919-6287230 look for Emilia

Very close to SM Bacoor P1.1M email: sm4sale@yahoo.com

LAGUNA

RETREAT/RETIREMENT
House PANSOL 3000m² Lot
Complete Amenities 4 bldgs.
Spa Jacuzzi Cabana Sauna
Hotspring Pool Bowling
Basketball 19M 375-8618
371-7267 / 0920-9218633

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

1.6M C5 Nr The Fort
12T/mo. or 3Yrs No Int. or
10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD 2-4BR
15min Fr Mkti 0917-8169849

MANILA

LEON GUINTO
NEAR LA SALLE
Bnew/3Sty/3BR/3TB/grge
P3 295M 8903461 loc 34

1-2-3BR nr La Salle TAFT 894-4516 0917-9853661

MANDALUYONG

Pioneer Madison sale/rent 2br 4121825/09177914366

PASIG

ORTIGAS CTR 1-2BR 4121825

QUEZON CITY

2BR P1.6M 58 sqm T.Sora 0916-7179834 RUSHIII

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

QUEZON CITY

Cubao 1.4M 10%DP 9132224

•Move - in! 50res+95T(10%) Ofc Resl Coml nr Ateneo UP Timog St Lukes spool jacuzi sauna. MOVERS • 4345002 • 0918-9287902 • 4108510 •

Scout Area nr. ABS-CBN P1.7M 633-1838 • 746-6669

LOT

MAKATI

106m² nr Mkti Ave Dir.Buyer Good Location 890-9014

OTHER AREAS

•TAGAYTAY VIEW LOTS•
INTEREST-FREE 5yrs.
BROKERS WELCOME
524-7900 0917-5022722

BATANGAS

5 - Hect Lot - Sto Tomas Batangas. Ask P250/sqm Tel. 8105223 / 09272617308

PROVINCIAL

★TAGAYTAY LOTS★
Mong H-way low dp/mo. 240m²-up
Coldest Spot T6588704 Totie

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

CONDO/TWNHSE

MANDALUYONG

2BR 2TB CONDO 16T 09189420180

TOWNHOUSE FUL FURN PVT. COMPD 3BDR 3TB 24HR SCTY W/SWIMPOOL 2CAR GARAGE CABLE GENSET STRONG H2O CALL 7182701 5323271 5316954 5323267

APARTMENT

MAKATI

Makati nr Mkt Square 09196056686

PASIG

3BR Grg nr. Ever 656-8371

QUEZON CITY

CUBAO P3.5T Sld Lady 9124428

FOR LEASE

Fabclion shop off 7233697

BEDSPACE

2Ldy 1.9ea nr LaSalle 9530043

A/C nr LaSalle 2.8ea 9530043

F/M P2.5T/mo. 7898660

BUSINESS RENTAL

PTAMO nr BUENDIA
1st Class bldg 85/129/148/185m²
8903461 loc 34 or 19 ofc hrs

LOAN & MORTGAGE

1 5% CARLOAN 7880357

2% W/O TAKING CAR 3677523/24

BUSINESS LOANS 524-3197

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

KIA

97 Pregio GS Matic 250T
721-5865 • 0916-3571288

MITSUBISHI

DELICA 1998 4X4 SKYLITE SUNROOF A/T DUAL A/C STEREO W/ CD 3609523

TOYOTA

93 Tamaraw FX Gas 170T
721-5865 • 0916-3571288

96FX 180K Neg 09198237786

We buy total loss cars • 0 9 1 6 6 0 7 6 4 6 1 •

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

OTHER CAR BRANDS

Pajero Land Cruiser Surf Delica Safari Terrano MU Trooper Lite-Hi Ace Space Gear Serena Vanette Elf Suzuki Canter Elf Trade in Financing w/ Warranty neg A1 9120647; 0917-8342020

MOTORCYCLE

RUSH SALE YAMAHA R-1
BIG BIKE
2002 A1 CONDITION
CALL 8999811 / 8964743-44

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

1T/Hiace 9136710/4333682

A B C CARS/VANS
NEW MODELS W/ OR W/O DRIVER
MLA HO 536-8822 • 303-9789
Q.C. BR 426-2278 • 426-4084

A*TOYCO UDRIVE W/ DRIVER CARS/VANS/REVO 8006595

CAR VANS 410-0495

STAREX'03 MB100 2973807

MB HIACE URVAN 8276605

MB-100 7415897

Van 0917-6626993 • 6421840

VAN 4 RENT BNEW 843-5701

VANS/CAR 741-1356

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING USED CARS 8990215

CAR LOAN

1.5% CARLOAN 3736519

1.5% Fast Car Loan 3677523/24

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6567685

1HR FastCarLoan 7125202

2% w/o Taking Car 7221021

2% w/o Taking Car 6560140

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

2% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 3732081-82

2% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

PETS

Dog Trainer 09192050952

DOG TRAINER 4528681

WANTED TO BUY

EDUCATION PLANS 2528373

BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX+OTHERS
Repair / Polish Any watch
MANILA WATCH EXCHANGE
Hyatt • 804-0484 / 834-2886
Greenhills • 724-4374

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
ROLEX
5646593 5897041
5633742 0917-8473744

BUYING ROLEX
Other WATCHES, BEST PRICE
0917-8142309 • 7269687
7220433 • 4123543

WATCH

BUYING ROLEX WATCH
Call 0922-365-3684

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FEMALE

*NURSE GRADUATE ACT AS A CAREGIVER TO OLD LADY CALL TEL.NO. 8430910

BOARD OF INVESTMENTS

dti

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the application of METRO CLARK WASTE MANAGEMENT (MCWM) CORPORATION with office address at Clark Special Economic Zone, Clarkfield, Pampanga for registration with the Board of Investments under Book I of the Omnibus Investments Code of 1987, otherwise known as E.O. 226, as Amended, as New Operator of Waste Management System under R.A. 9003, otherwise known as the "Solid Waste Management Act", with project site at same office address stated above has been officially accepted on August 25, 2003 and is currently being processed.

Any person with valid objections to or pertinent comments on the above-mentioned application may file his/ her objection, in writing under oath, with the BOI within one (1) week from the date of this publication.

Issued this 25th day of August 2003

(Sgd.) FRANCISCO C. CHAVEZ
Director
Project Evaluation and Registration Department

(PDI--Sept. 4, 2003)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE/FEMALE

DIRECT HIRE MKTG PERSONNEL 20-45 COLL GRAD/LEVEL W/ W/O EXP 4370454 MS SHIE

DIRECT HIRE OFC / MKTG STAFF T-4382399 MS OLGA

KANA PHIL TOUR LOOKING FOR RESERVATION OFFICER MESSENGER 7761331

MANICURISTA
FEMALE MASSAGER
CALL 895-6031 L2011

Marketing Company needs strong closer to sell franchises. Proficient in English is a must. Salary of Php30,000+commission+ expenses. Fax resume to Ms. Mary at HRD- 898-2612

OFC MKTG STAF 20-45YO COL GRAD/LVL W/W/O EXP W/SALARY 9352962 ELAINE

OFC STAFF 09207417712 TAZ

OFCMKTG STF 09193352395 KC

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

CAREGIVER TRNG 5271590

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of the late Aurora Nitura, who died on February 9, 1996 at San Pedro, Laguna has been extra-judicially settled on August 19, 2003 at Pasay City before Manuel G. Garcia, a Notary Public for and in Pasay City per Doc. No. 483, Page 98, Book No. LVII, Series of 2003 (PDI-August 21, 28 and September 4, 2003)

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that the stock certificate #134 in the name of DR. LUISITO R. LOPEZ of Rural Bank of Antipolo was lost. If no contest w/n a month new certificate would be issued. PDI -Aug. 28, Sept. 4 & 11, 2003

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BOOK DEALERS WANTED
We are an American co-owned importer of American & British books & have been operating in the country for almost 30 years. We are looking for confident & energetic people in sales with entrepreneurial ability to sell our line of high quality book titles, including THE GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS 2004. For details, text your name, address & landline to cell no. 0919-3937695 & we will call you. Or visit/write to: Uni-world Import-Export, Inc., 41-B West Ave., Quezon City.

Build Your Own Bisnes (02) 653-0597 • 0916-7251447

RETIRE 2YRS 09189051567

Earn 2M Cap 11T 0922-3174830

Earn Fr Home 09175065388

•OWN UR LIFE• travelandwork fromhome.com 8531808 09178931651

EARN TRAVEL 046-8751182

I MAKE P500,000.00/mo
Needs Women To Train 23-48yrs old w/Serious Exp in Mktg Mngt Banking & Finance • Tel # 525-0234 536-8322 •

RTW/BLOUSES P28 727-4934

SMART E-LOAD 500 7252311

Work By Phone, Earn Up 2 P30T/mo. 23&Up! 5300749

XTRA INCOME (02)2597876

NO JOBS IN IRAQ YET Call POEA at 722-1144 722-1155

GROWTH WITH EQUITY IN MINDANAO (GEM) PROGRAM
A Project of the United States Agency for International Development
The General Contractor is THE LOUIS BERGER GROUP, INC.
Tel: (6382) 225-1596 • Fax: (6382) 225-1479
USAID Contract No: 492-C-00-02-00018-00

Team Leader for Education

A U.S. consulting company contracted by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to implement the Growth with Equity in Mindanao Program is seeking expressions of interest from individuals applying for the above positions.

This is a fixed term position beginning on or about October 1, 2003 through October 2006 with Davao City as the official duty station but with travel to Cotabato and the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

Description: This is a senior position reporting to the Deputy Chief of Party. Assignment entails coordinating day to day activities; managing staff; identifying and managing consultants and/or service providers engaged for assessments or project implementation activities; reviewing/editing consultant reports; identifying initiatives to enhance the education program; drafting documents related to program development and implementation; preparing RFPs; evaluating technical and financial proposals; facilitating contracting of service providers.

Requirements: The candidate must have excellent management and English writing skills, and at least 12 years of related experience. S/he must be a team player and should hold a graduate degree in economics, public administration, political science, or related fields of study. Experience in the ARMM preferred.

Interested individuals are requested to submit original copies of their letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and salary history within 5 working days of publication of this ad to the following address: The Louis Berger Group, Inc., Unit 3, 12th Floor, ExportBank Plaza, Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue corner Don Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City 1200. Email: rdgalang@mindanao.org.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION
SEC Building, EDSA, Greenhills
City of Mandaluyong, Metro Manila

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Securities and Exchange Commission invites bonafide bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for the **SECURITY SERVICES Contract for 2004, SEC Main Office,** Greenhills, Mandaluyong City

The SEC needs Security Services to secure the entire building offices and parking areas. The approximate budget for the contract is P5,544,000.00.

Bid documents can be secured at the General Services Division, 4th floor, SEC Building, EDSA, Greenhills, Mandaluyong City upon payment of non-refundable fee of P1,000.00. For further inquiries, please call Asst. Director Romeo O. Dauag or Mr. Norlan M. De las Alas at Tel. No. 727-3320.

Pre-Bid conference will be held on:

Date	September 19, 2003
Time	10:00 A.M.
Place	MRD Conference Room, 6th Floor, SEC Building

Eligible Bidders shall submit their bids in two (2) separate sealed envelopes, the Eligibility/Technical Requirement and the Financial Proposal. All documents originating from other government agencies should be Authenticated/Certified True Copies.

The envelopes must be sealed, properly labeled, signed or stamped across the envelope flap.

Deadline for submission of bids will be on:

Date	October 6, 2003
Time	10:00 AM
Place	General Services Division, 4th Floor, SEC Building
To Whom	Mr. Norlan M. De las Alas, BAC Secretariat

Bid submitted after the date/time shall no longer be accepted.

The provisions of Republic Act 9184 and the implementing Rules and Regulations of Executive Order No. 40 series of 2001 shall govern all particulars relative to Eligibility, Bid Bond, Pre Bid Conference, Bid Evaluation, Post qualification and Award of Contract

The SEC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any required formalities therein and to award the contract on the bidder whose proposals as evaluated is most advantageous to the Commission.

SEC also assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of their bids, nor does it guarantee that any award will be made.

(Sgd.) JOSE AQUINO
Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI-Sept. 4 & 11, 2003)

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
Quezon City

ERRATUM ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF BIDDING

With reference to the announcement issued last 30 August 2003 on the importation of 150,000 MT, 10% MOLSO yellow corn equivalent to US grade No. 2 or better, the National Food Authority (NFA) wishes to announce the amendment on the minimum volume to be offered per supplier from 20,000 MT to 10,000 MT.

(Sgd.) **ARTHUR C. YAP**
Administrator

(PDI - Sept 4, 2003)

INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS & DESIGN 03 BUILD

The PICC Forum, CCP Complex, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City
SEPT. 25 - 28, 2003

The Philippine Daily Inquirer and Design Build 2003 are working together to come out with a very special design and construction supplement - - featuring the 4 specialized events of the expo namely Real Estate & Home Fair, Disenyo, Build Show and Construction Philippines

Advertisers who wish to take part in this supplement are entitled to full color advertising with NO SURCHARGE and reasonable rates for Metro Manila circulation (tabloid size)

DESIGN 03 BUILD SUPPLEMENT

THE SUPPLEMENT IS SCHEDULED FOR RELEASE ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2003 IN LINE WITH THE OPENING OF DESIGN BUILD 2003. WE HAVE THESE VERY SPECIAL ADVERTISING RATES:

1/8 page	(approx. 12 35 cm. [W] x 7.5cm [H])	P 8,308.00
Quarter page	(approx. 12 35 cm [W] x 15 cm [H])	P 15,268 00
Half page	(approx. 24 7cm [W] x 15cm. [H])	P 27,750 00
1 full page	(approx 24.7 cm [W] x 30cm [H])	P 50,473 00

YES, we agree to place a ______ page ad in Design Build 2003 Newspaper Supplement in the amount of P ______ 00 We also agree to submit the ad material in TIF, EPS or JPEG file format not later than SEPTEMBER 12, 2003 (Friday).

REAL ESTATE & HOME FAIR
DiSenyo
BUILD SHOW BUILDING CONSTRUCTION
CONSTRUCTION PHILIPPINES

ADVERTISING CONTRACT

SIZE OF ADVERTISEMENT :
Company ______
Official Representative_
Address_
Tel. No
Fax no
Signature__

FOR INQUIRIES CALL: Tel. Nos. (632) 724-4128-30 • F: (632) 724.4878 • E-mail: convex@mozcom.com

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION

Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

OBITUARIES

THE HERITAGE PARK
FORT BONIFACIO
more than just a memorial park

Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig,
Metro Manila, 1632
(632) 845-2334 to 38 loc. 109/112;
(632) 845-2341 or (632) 845-2342
sales@heritagepark.com.ph

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT MESSAGE OF THANKS DEATH ANNIVERSARY REQUIEMS FREE OBIT DESIGN

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL
12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City. Tels. 715-1025; 715-1031; 715-1027

ARLINGTON EAST THE GARDEN CHAPELS
C. Raymundo St. cor. Mercedes Ave., San Miguel Ave., Pasig City,
Tels. 747-8599, 747-8609 • Telefax 641-1760

AUREA QUIOGUE FUNERAL HOMES
243 A.B. Fernandez Ave., Dagupan City, Pangasinan
Tels. (0785) 522-3451; 522-2128, (0917) 434-8976

CAPITOL MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
1305 G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City
Tel. 732-0309; 732-1095

CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Cebu Branch. A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu; Tels. 346-2543; 346-2601

COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City. Tels. 231-0721; 231-3192

COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext. cor. J. Abad Santos, Davao City; Tels. (082) 227-1201; 227-1258

DAYAO FUNERAL HOME
#2 Bayani St., Galas, Quezon City:
Tels. 740-2683. 781-3705; 781-3688. 413-9400; 715-5594

DALLUAY MEMORIAL SERVICES
#42 Upper Kalaklan, Olongapo City
Tels. (047) 222-3605, (047) 811-1086; (047) 222-4512; (047) 224-2014

DON BOSCO CHAPELS
Pasay Road. Makati City. Tel. 894-5932 to 34

DULCE MEMORIAL SERVICES
Jose Abad Santos Ave. cor. Dinalupihan St., Manuguit, Manila
Tels. 712-5102. 741-5125; 741-5133. Fax No. 711-3054

DYNASTY MEMORIAL CHAPELS
985 Del Monte Ave., Frisco. Quezon City: Tels. 416-3231; 4162373

ERIC SANTIAGO MEMORIAL CHAPELS
26 Bayanbayan Ave., Concepcion I, Marikina City; Tels. 942-6044; 475-1177

FLORESCO FUNERAL HOME
219 Gen. Luna St., Concepcion, Malabon, Metro Manila; Tels. 2812963; 2813034; 2810522

FUNERARIA PANGILINAN
Santo Entierro cor. P. Burgos St., Lourdes Sur, Angeles City
Tels. (045) 888-2959; (045) 322-5247

FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIOGUE
No. 67 Pasig Boulevard Extension. Pasig City; Tels. 641-7909; 641-1735
M. Almeda St., Pateros, Metro Manila; Tels. 642-3010; 633-3802

FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
187 Real St., Zapote Alabang, Las Piñas; Tels. 873-0507; 873-0024

FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
865 J.P. Rizal St., Poblacion, Makati City; Tels. 890-3556; 899-8191

FUNERARIA TUASON
Poblacion, San Miguel Bulacan 3011; Tels. (044) 764-0281; 678-0266; (0917) 895-0603

FUNERARIA SAMSON
145 Bayan Luma, Imus, Cavite; Tels. (046) 471-3375; 471-2675

GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK
Calsadang Bago, Pateros. Metro Manila. Tels. 642-6181 to 82

HERITAGE PARK
Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila
Tels. (DL) 845-2341 to 42. (TL) 845-2334 to 38 loc. 110/112

HOLY GARDENS MEMORIAL PARK
Third Level, Unishoppe Complex
Quezon Ave., Angono, Rizal
Tels. 651-1711 651-0737

HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Dr. A. Santos Ave. Sucat Rd., Sucat, Parañaque City;
Tels. 825-1296; 825-1291, Telefax: 825-1314

LA FUNERARIA LAWRENCE BAQUIRAN
#27 Crisologo St., Vigan, Ilocos Sur: Tel. 722-2730. Cell (0917) 5680136, (0917) 5680145
Manila #23 Palo St., Project 2, Quezon City. Tel. 434-3258

LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
1501 C.M. Recto Ave. cor. T. Mapua, Manila; Tels. 711-6931 to 35. 732-4795; 732-2827

LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
143 G. Araneta Ave. cor. Kaliraya St., Quezon City
Tels. 749-3806 to 11; 712-3001; 743-6502 or 05

LA FUNERARIA PAZ, SUCAT, INC.
Dr. A. Santos Ave., Sucat, Parañaque; Tels. 820-1592; 825-9947. 825-8635

LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
79 Naguilian Rd., Baguio City; Tel. (074) 443-3337. (074) 442-3117

LA FUNERARIA SAPINOSO
G. Tirona St., Imus, Cavite; Tels. (046) 471-3386; (046) 471-4417; (046) 571-1978

LOYOLA MEMORIAL CHAPELS
EDSA cor. Bernardino St., Guadalupe. Makati City: Tels. 895-1011 to 19

LOYOLA MEMORIAL PARK CHAPELS & CREMATORY SERVICES
Loyola Memorial Park, A. Bonifacio Avenue. Tañong. Marikina City
Tels. 941-3196 to 98. 941-3676. Telefax 941-3577

MARIAN MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Marcos Hiway, Antipolo, Rizal: Tels. 645-1855. 682-0209. 682-0210

MARCELO FUNERAL HOMES
Tels. 283-1613. 273-8922

MT. SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL
Arellano St., Dagupan City: Tels. (075) 515-5960, 522-8783. (0917) 520-5001

NACIONAL MEMORIAL HOMES
264 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City: Tels. 713-5231 to 35; 714-0867. 714-0868

OUR LADY OF PEACE MEMORIAL PARK CHAPEL & SERVICES, INC.
No. 6 Cangma St., Antipolo City 1870
Tel. No. 697-0782. 697-0026 650-7426. Fax 697-2764

PAKET SANTIAGO MEMORIAL HOMES
13 V. Gomez St., San Roque, Marikina City. Tels. 646-1725. 646-1730

POPULAR MEMORIAL CHAPELS, INC.
2141 Rizal Ave., Sta. Cruz, Manila. Tel. Nos. 254-0867. 254-0839

PRIME MEMORIAL CHAPELS
200 Commonwealth Ave., Quezon City. Tels. 427-8412. 4278403

ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Ground Flr. Rolling Hills Chapel, 27th-Lacson St., Mandalagan, Bacolod City. Tel. 433-7132

RIZAL FUNERAL HOMES
438 Cementina St., Pasay City. Tels. 831-1204
Sucat Branch: 8187 Dr. A. Santos Ave. Sucat, Parañaque City
Tels. 826-1376. 826-9682 (0915) 712-1220

SANTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO PARISH
Forbes Park, Makati City. Tel. Nos. 843-6838 30 Fax No. 843-9223

SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH
East Greenhills. Mandaluyong City. Telefax 724-4139. 725-2044

ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH
Magallanes Village, Makati City. Tels. 852-8228. 852-7284

ST. MARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL
16-15 G. Tuazon cor. Loreto St., Sampaloc, Manila. Tels. 749-3679. 781-1772

ST. PETER FUNERAL HOMES
296 Quezon Ave., Quezon City. Tels. 372-5084. 410-9286-87

UNIVERSAL FUNERAL SERVICE & MEMORIAL CHAPELS
2028 Rizal Ave., Sta. Cruz, Manila. Tels. 493-4458. 493-4540

VERONICA MEMORIAL HOMES
Official NBI Morgue 517-A Arnaiz St., Pasay City: Tels. 831-3797. 844-7846. 843-1801. 845-4836

WELINGTON FUNERAL SERVICES
1511 Gen. Luna St. Paco, Manila. Tel. 302-5447

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
➊ Copy of Death Certificate ➋ Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments

In Loving Memory
of Our Dearly Beloved Mama

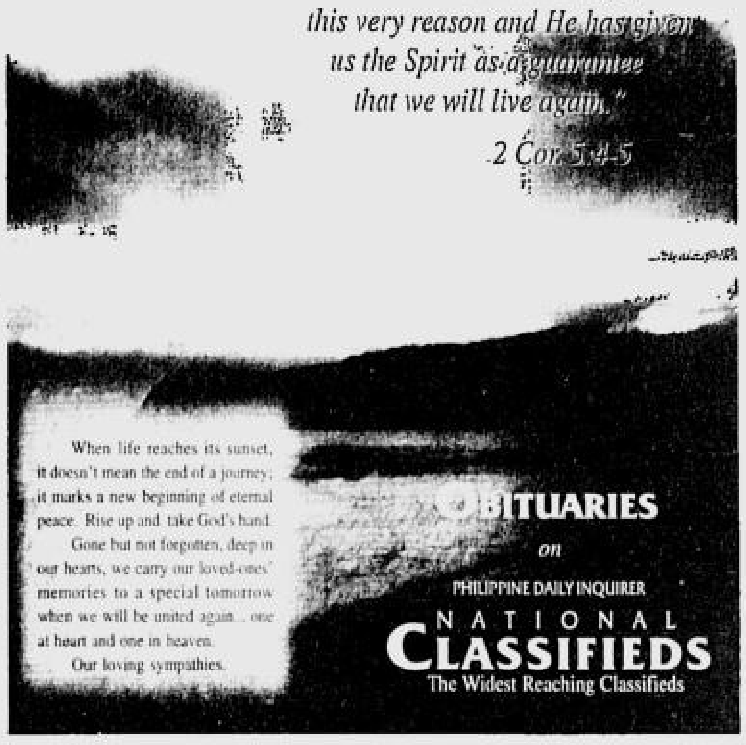
REYNALDA S. ANGELES

of Orion, Bataan
passed away in the Grace of our Lord
on August 31, 2003

Her bereaved family and relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the family home in Orion, Bataan. Interment will be on Saturday, September 6, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. at the Orion Catholic Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations to her favorite charities will be deeply appreciated.



"Eternal life will swallow up that which can die. God made us for this very reason and He has given us the Spirit as a guarantee that we will live again."
2 Cor 5:4-5

When life reaches its sunset, it doesn't mean the end of a journey; it marks a new beginning of eternal peace. Rise up and take God's hand.

Gone but not forgotten, deep in our hearts, we carry our loved-ones' memories to a special tomorrow when we will be united again... one at heart and one in heaven.

Our loving sympathies.

OBITUARIES on PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS
The Widest Reaching Classifieds

CLASSIFIEDS

Visit...

THE 24TH MANILA INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR

Enhancing Global Competitiveness Through Reading

August 30 - September 7, 2003 • 10:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.
Megatrade Hall, 5th Level, Building B, SM Megamall, EDSA, Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila, Philippines

EXHIBITORS

A - Z Direct Marketing, Inc. • Abiva Publishing House, Inc. • Academic Book Sales, Inc. • Adarna House • ADBOX Book Distributors, Inc. • Alexan Commercial • Anvil Publishing, Inc. • AOL Time Warner Book Group • Asia/Pacific Circulation Exponents, Inc. • Ateneo de Manila University Press • Belgosa Bookstores Inc. • Bibliarch, Inc. • Book Wagon/Pahina Inc. • CD Books International, Inc. • C & E Publishing, Inc. • Catholic Book Center • Central Book Supply Inc. • Claretian Communications, Inc. • Cultural Center of the Philippines • De La Salle University Press, Inc. • Delcah International Trading, Inc. • Diwa Learning Systems Inc. • EDCA Publishing & Distributing Corp. • Emerald Headway Distributors, Inc. • F & J de Jesus, Inc. • Felta Multi-Media Inc. • Filway Marketing, Inc. • Forefront Book Co. • Golden Books Services, Inc. • Goodwill Bookstore • Grolier International Inc. (Cyclophil Div.) • Gunnar Lie & Associates Ltd. • High Access Line Phils. Corp. • IBC Infotech, Inc. • Info-Ed Marketing Corporation • JMC Press • John Wiley & Sons (Asia) Pte. Ltd. • Katha Publishing • Lampara Publishing House, Inc. • Linar Educational Materials, Inc. • Logos Publications, Inc. • Macromind Corporation • McGraw-Hill Education • Megatexts Phil., Inc. • National Book Store Inc. • New Day Publishers • Newsweek, Inc./VLS Subscription House • OMF Literature, Inc. • Paulines Publishing House • Pearson Education (Asia) Pte Ltd • Philand Industries, Inc. • Phoenix Educational Systems, Inc. • Phoenix Learning Journey Inc. • Power Books • Precious Pages Corporation • Rarebook Enterprises • Rex Group of Companies Inc. • Roman Instructional Media Resources, Inc. • Scholastic, Inc. • Sinag-Tala Publishers, Inc. • St Pauls • Stiftung Gralsbotschaft • TLFA Marketing Services, Inc. • The Bookmark, Inc. • The University of the Philippines Press • Thomson Learning • Tradewinds Books • UST Publishing House • WS Pacific Publications, Inc. • Word & Life Publications • Word of Joy Foundation, Inc. • Young Minds

For more details, please call: PRIMETRADE ASIA, INC.
Unit 302 Villa Building, 78 Jupiter Street, Bel-Air, 1209 Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines
Tel. Nos.: (632) 896-0682, 632-9289 • Fax No.: (632) 896-0695 • E-mail: ptrade@philonline.com • Website: www.primetradeasia.com

Sponsored by:

JOB Market • Read or Lead • 105.1 Crossover • 93.9 The Most Hit Music • 702 • Magic 89.9 • PhilOnline • iFM 93.9 • Jam • 103.5 K-Lite

Discover how to look great every day whether you... walking down the street with your friends.

Dream Cast
Be a model!

Personality Enhancement and Fashion Workshop

September 6- October 11,2003 The Forum, Podium

- Personality Enhancement/Grooming — SEPTEMBER 6, 2003 — Personality Enhancement Coach *MR.RICKY GARCIA*
- Effective Communications — SEPTEMBER 13, 2003 — DJ Session Coach *JOE D' MANGO (WAVE 89.1)*; VJ Session Coach *FRANCO CRUZ MABANTA*
- Pictorial Session — SEPTEMBER 17, 2003 — Photo Shoot by: *RICKY LADIA*; Hair and Make-up by *DAVID'S by Rever*
- Basic and Advanced Modeling — SEPTEMBER 20, 2003 — Coach *MR. VIC SEVILLA*; Coach: *DIRECTOR LOUIE CANO*
- The Dreamcast Day — OCTOBER 11,2003 — All graduates will be presented in a fashion show at the **Forum**, Podium on October 11, 2002. With the special performances of **Jimmy Bondoc**, **Nyoy Volante** and the **Akafellas**.

Registration Dates: August 12 to September 5, 2003 at the FORUM, PODIUM. HURRY! Limited slots only.
For Inquiries call: The Forum at 6372630 ask for Joy or text 0917-626-1213 or 0917 890-5116

outland • airwalk • folded&hung • Inquirer • BMG • WADE • Audio Compulsion

Leading firms join Philconstruct 2003

THE COUNTRY'S leading firms in construction, architecture, engineering, building material supplies, and real estate development have joined PHILCONSTRUCT 2003, the biggest construction exhibition this year set at the World Trade Center, Pasay City from Nov. 13 to 16.

PHILCONSTRUCT 2003, the Philippine International Construction Materials and Equipment Exhibition, showcases state-of-the-art products and latest technologies. It is being spearheaded by the Philippine Constructors Association (PCA).

L. A. Ducut and Company, Inc., was appointed exhibit manager of PhilConstruct 2003.

Among the firms which will participate in the exhibit are BOYSEN, Lafarge Cement Services (Phils.), Inc., Robert Bosch, Inc., Cemex Philippines, Charter Chemical & Coating Corp. (Davies Paint); Co Ban Kiat Hardware, Corp, Camp Marketing & Development Inc., Pag-asa Steel Works, National Panasonic, Union Cement Corp., Concepcion Carrier Air Conditioning Company, Ace Hardware, Monark Equipment Corporation, Laguna Property Holdings, Inc. Dutch Boy Phils., Inc., L&M Maxco, Leighton Contractors, Philmetal Products, Inc., Capitol Steel Corporation, Eurotiles Industrial Corporation, Mariwasa Manufacturing, Inc. Atlanta Industries, Inc., Allgemeine Bau Chemie Phils., Inc., EEI, Emerald Vinyl Corp. Maxima Equip. Co., Inc., Freyssinet Phils. Inc. Civic Merchandising, Inc., Sika Philippines Inc., Federal Chemicals, Inc., Thermo Engineering Supply Corp., Pioneer Ceramics Livan Trade Corp., Perfect Circle Ind'l. Supply Corp., Multi-line Design Sys., Inc., K-Plast Inc., Anonas Construction & Ind'l. Supply Corp.

In holding the exhibit, the PCA aims to equip construction practitioners with the knowledge, skills and techniques to meet the demands of the business environment.

Those interested to join may coordinate with the PCA or L.A. Ducut & Company, Inc. at 873-1198 or 873-8202 or 873-9047.

BUSINESS

Asean hammers out free trade plan with China

MALAYSIAN Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi delivers his keynote address at the closing day of the general meeting of Pacific Economy Cooperation Council (PECC) at Bandar Seri Bergawan, Brunei, on Wednesday. AP

PHNOM PENH—Trade ministers from the 10-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) were in talks Wednesday with Chinese officials to accelerate the creation of the world's largest free trade area, officials said.

Both sides were discussing an "early harvest" package of products to be initially covered under the Asean-China Free Trade Agreement, whose creation was agreed on in the Cambodian capital last year during the Asean leaders' summit, officials said.

The Asean-China FTA is to create a market of 1.7 billion consumers with a combined gross domestic product of $2 trillion and total trade of $1.23 trillion.

It would be the biggest free trade zone of its kind in the world when it is realized in 2010.

"The FTA is designed to attract investment in that it would not matter much if an investor locates his factory in China, in the Philippines or any other part of Asean," Philippine Trade Secretary Manuel Roxas told AFP.

"By having an FTA, his product can enter China without really having to locate to China, for example. This is really an effort to make Asean and its members much more attractive."

Asean-China trade reached $55.4 billion in 2001, significantly higher than the $8.9 billion a decade ago, official figures showed.

Between 1993 and 2001, two-way trade grew by an average of 25.7 percent annually, while initial studies suggest that this would be pushed significantly higher once the FTA is fully in place.

The aim is to have the six senior or original Asean members—Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand—fully implement the FTA with China in 2010.

Newer members Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam would be given five more years to join, off icials said.

Any agreement to be reached in talks here in Phnom Penh is expected to be transmitted to Asean leaders for approval when they meet for their annual summit in Bali, Indonesia, next month. *AFP*

MANUFACTURING UP

Asian stocks gain, euro slides on US data

SINGAPORE—Further evidence of a strengthening US economy hoisted Asian shares to fresh peaks on Wednesday and undermined the euro.

But an early rise in Japanese shares coupled with a sharp fall in the country's government bond prices reversed in late morning trade amid worries stocks had risen too fast.

The euro fell to an eight-month low against the yen and a four-and-a-half-month low versus the dollar on expectations the US and Japanese economies would recover faster than their eurozone counterparts.

In the commodity markets, oil prices edged up after tumbling almost 7 percent on Tuesday as the US driving season ended. Gold retreated from seven-month peaks in US trade.

The stock and currency moves followed news that US manufacturing growth accelerated in August and factories raised production to the highest level since the peak of the 1990s boom.

The data, underscoring the economy's vigorous expansion this quarter, coupled with signs of a Japanese recovery to bolster optimism of a rebound in the wider Asian economy.

"The economy of the US is showing signs of revival and that will be beneficial to Hong Kong, especially exporters," said Peter Lai, a director of OCBC Securities in Hong Kong.

The territory's Hang Seng Index climbed 0.9 percent in early trade, rising back above the 11,000 level to a 14-month high. Legend Group Ltd., China's largest computer maker, gained 3 percent.

Japanese shares also reached a 14-month peak, but the gains evaporated as the morning session ended to leave the Nikkei average almost flat at 10,692.58.

Technical indicators suggested the market was overextended after rallying 15 percent over the past four weeks.

"In the medium term, I think the market is in an uptrend. But in the short term, there are concerns that it has gone too far, too fast," said Katsuhiko Kodama, head of equities at Toyo Securities.

Expectations that Japanese shares would continue to rise helped send Japanese government bonds tumbling for a third day in early trade, but the market flipped as local institutional investors bought long bonds in huge amounts, dealers said.

The 10-year bond yield dropped 14 basis points to 1.490 percent, while the 20-year bond yield lost 10.5 basis points to hit 1.855 percent.

Prices on shorter bonds remained in the red, however, with the five-year bond yield above one percent for the first time since December 2000 and the two-year yield moving up to 0.3 percent for the first time since February 2001.

Bonds have been under pressure following recent data that suggested the Japanese economy was picking up. US Treasuries have suffered from similar readings on the US economy, but were steady in Asia after falling sharply in New York on the strong domestic manufacturing data.

The US data boosted stocks on Wall Street, lifting the Dow Jones Industrial Average 1.1 percent and the Nasdaq Composite Index 1.7 percent. *Reuters*

IMF's Koehler sees 4% global growth in '04

KUALA LUMPUR—The world economy should grow by 4 percent in 2004 with Asian economies among the bright spots, Horst Koehler, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, said on Wednesday.

"Overall, the IMF expects global growth ... to reach 4 percent in 2004," Koehler told a media luncheon in Malaysia.

"While uncertainties remain, prospects for a recovery in the global economy really have improved," he added.

"In the US, there are increasing signs of a pick-up with a significant economic stimulus still in the pipeline," said Koehler, who is due to meet Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir later on Wednesday.

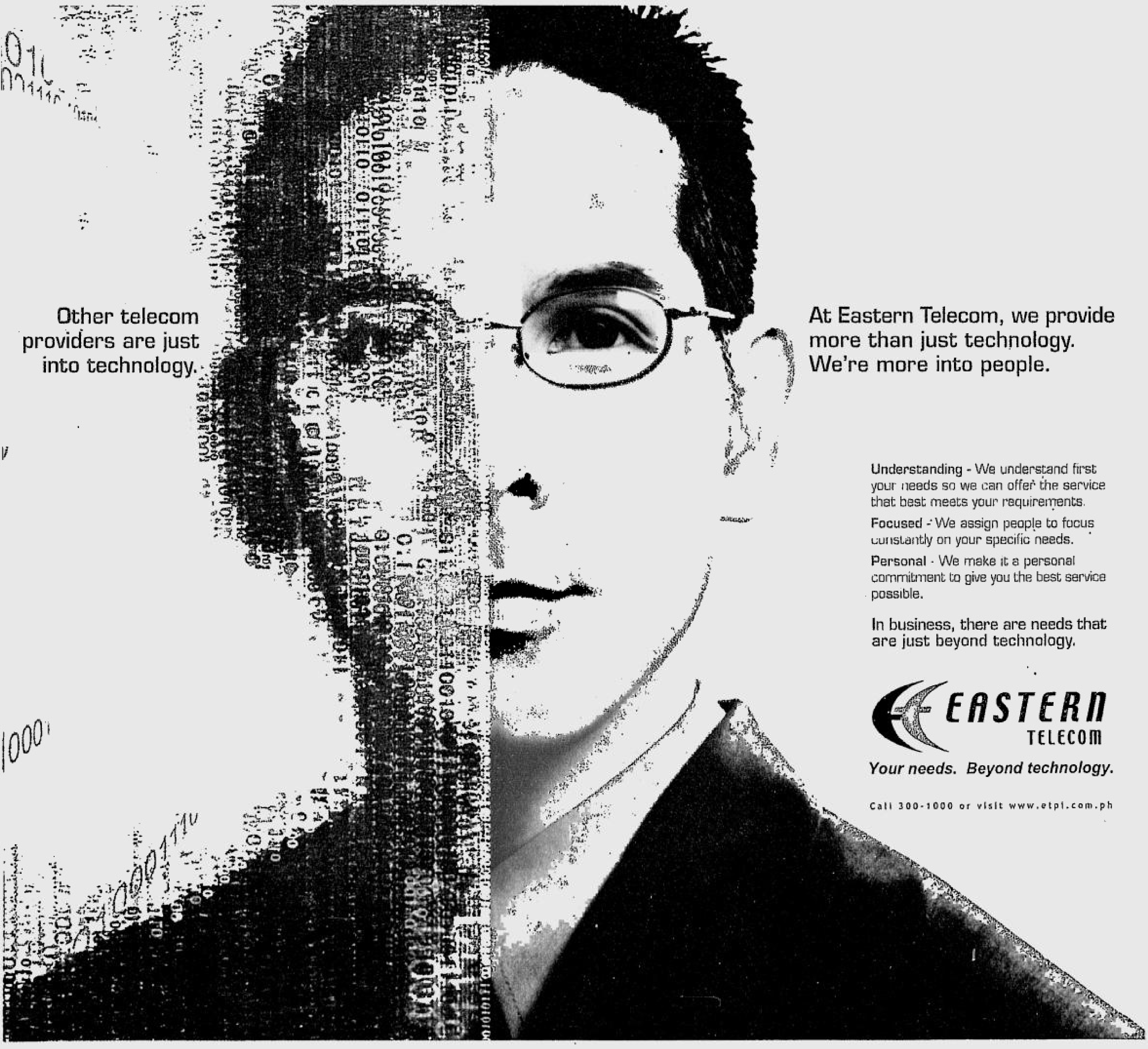
He added that Europe showed no evidence of a turnaround though he noted business expectations there had improved.

Koehler said a tentative recovery appeared to have begun in Japan and he reported a general strengthening in emerging and developing countries.

Asia was a bright spot in the global economy, with the continent's economies expected to post 6 percent growth this year and to strengthen further in 2004.

Conditions in global financial markets were also supportive of a recovery, he added.

For Malaysia, Koehler expected economic growth to exceed 5 percent next year. *Reuters*



Other telecom providers are just into technology.

At Eastern Telecom, we provide more than just technology. We're more into people.

Understanding - We understand first your needs so we can offer the service that best meets your requirements.

Focused - We assign people to focus constantly on your specific needs.

Personal - We make it a personal commitment to give you the best service possible.

In business, there are needs that are just beyond technology.

EASTERN TELECOM

Your needs. Beyond technology.

Call 300-1000 or visit www.etpi.com.ph

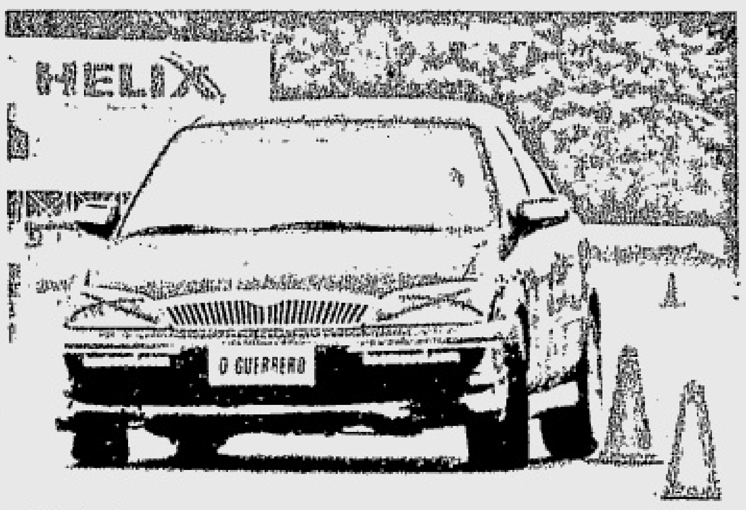
MOTORING

E-mail: pr_motoring@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Cesar D. Mangawang

WET surface stunt at the BRC

Burning rubber at the circuit



UNDER time trial slalom test

By Tessa R. Salazar

WE may not be aware of it, but we may be driving on a "tire nightmare."

We might be running on over-inflated tires, balding ones, tires not suited for our climate. Or our driving might be over-abusing our tires. Our roads can be hell to even the sturdiest rubber. Indeed, the Philippines is not a very friendly place for tires.

And tires do complain—they screech and they slip—and their life span becomes shorter. Filipinos have a penchant for keeping "comatose" tires running, as expressed in the slogan "*puwede pa 'yan.*"

It is also the same expression that tells us that many Filipinos are hard to please, and they are never satisfied that their tires can last just this long for the money they parted for it with.

So, part of the job of motoring journalists is to abuse not just vehicles, but tires as well. Journalists have to think like a Filipino motorist and take everything to the extreme. What they do is not just for fun, it's more for the sake of their readers.

Sadistic intents

And so was the reason we all flocked to the Batangas Racing Circuit last week. Our job was to abuse Goodyear's new tire named Ducaro GA, which seemed all too happy to entertain our sadistic intents.

Some of our colleagues already had a "romantic" past with the tire, as they had already abused them in an earlier affair in Luxembourg.

Assisted and supervised by racing champs JP Tuason and the Tuason Racing School instructors, each motoring writer took turns driving Ford Lynx units in an under time trial slalom. We were then asked to drive several rounds around the track. Sharp curves and turns on speeds in excess of 80 kph showed what these tires were made of.

Except for one screech, the Ducaro GA tires were surprisingly quiet during the entire torture test.

Ducaro GA makers claim that the tires have continuous center ribs that improve steering response. A solid center area, they explain, maintains continuous contact with the road. Transversal shoulder grooves also prevent aquaplaning on wet surfaces and improve grip on wet surfaces.

The makers also boast of the radial shoulder blades that improved wet traction and optimize tread. According to Goodyear, it had increased the surface edges to create more friction or "bite" for grip.

Opened sample tread elements showed small dots that attached to holes on the other side when tread elements closed.

And so, this writer drove her own car fitted with the Ducaro GA tires back to Manila from BRC on a rainy afternoon. I drove through flooded roadsides to see if Goodyear's claims held water. They did. The tires had a firmer grip on wet roads and hadn't displaced my car's steering capability compared to my old Eagle NCT tires.

Technical claims

Goodyear experts say the Ducaro GA tires' deep open grooves expel water quickly from under the tire to prevent aquaplaning. Transverse shoulder grooves also perform the same function, allowing water to be pumped out at high speeds, keeping the rubber in firm contact with the road for maximum grip.

Worth noting was the makers' so-called Bubble Blade II system that significantly increases traction while it decreases road noise.

Goodyear engineers claim the tires' tread elements open at point of contact with the road and during acceleration, to provide traction. Meanwhile, tread elements close when not under pressure, thus reducing noise.

Other technical claims include a computer-optimized tire cavity that increases tire-to-road contact for surer handling and comfort; a decoupling groove that balances footprint pressure for even wear, better mileage and less noise; a double sequencing tread that operates at individual rates to ensure quiet performance.

> Filipinos have a penchant for keeping 'comatose' tires running

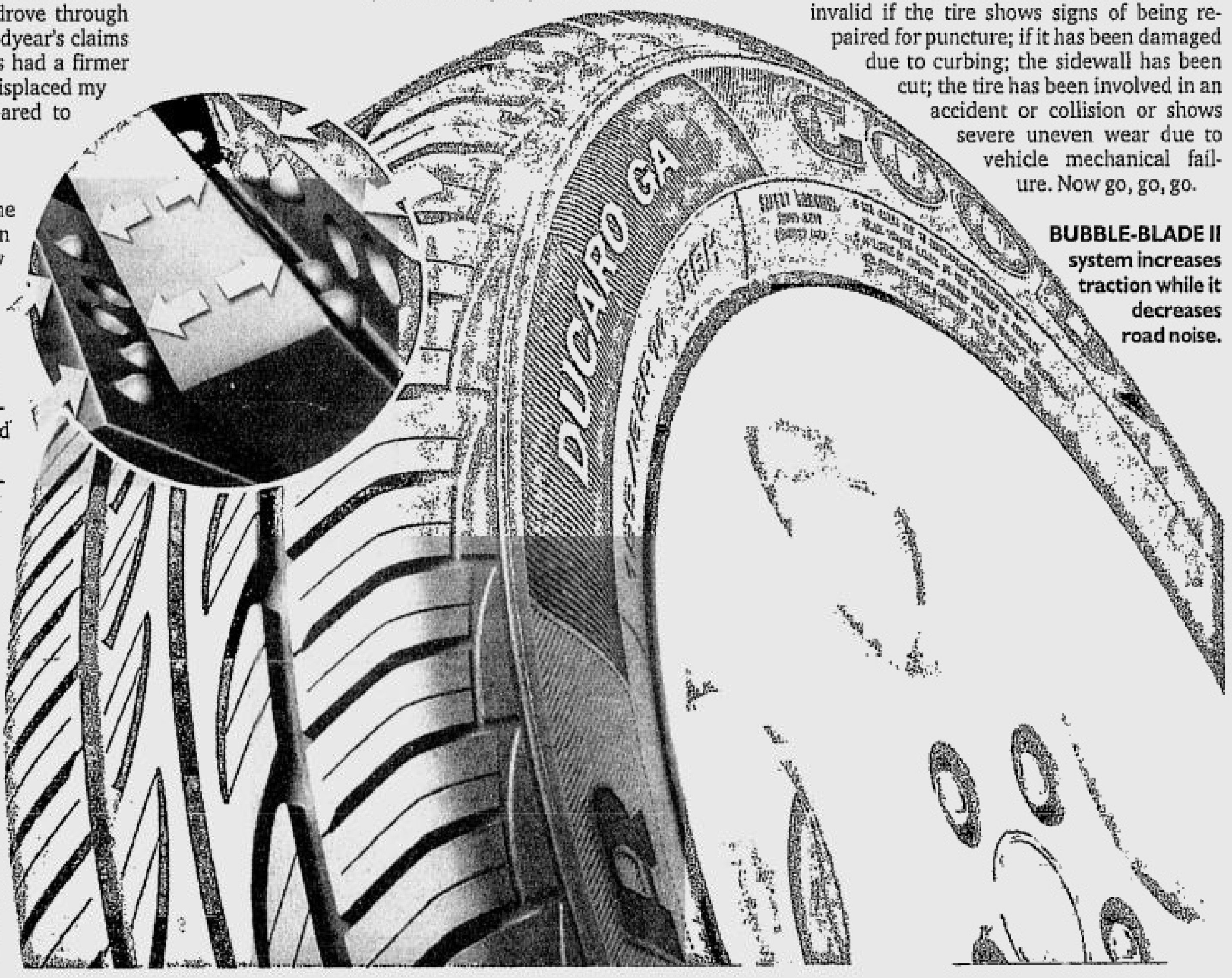
The Trinuum tire technology brings together tire knowledge, experience and creativity from Goodyear's global development centers in Japan, Europe and America. Goodyear boasts of technological advances in tire chemistry, design and engineering, which it claims, is more evident in Ducaro GA.

Risk-free trial

But don't just take Goodyear's word for it. If you're itching to get a new set of tires and curious about this Ducaro GA thing, and are tired of encountering the same problems with your older tires, then go for a risk-free trial at any authorized Goodyear Servitek or Tyre Pro outlet by purchasing a set of four Ducaro GA tires. If you're not satisfied with its performance, handling and comfort, then Goodyear is willing to replace them with another comparable set of Goodyear tires.

But there are conditions, of course. The tires must be returned within two weeks from the date of purchase or before 500 km, whichever comes first.

And don't forget, a risk-free trial would be invalid if the tire shows signs of being repaired for puncture; if it has been damaged due to curbing; the sidewall has been cut; the tire has been involved in an accident or collision or shows severe uneven wear due to vehicle mechanical failure. Now go, go, go.



BUBBLE-BLADE II system increases traction while it decreases road noise.

Whatever suits you.
CHEVROLET
BECAUSE LIFE IS A JOURNEY

INTRODUCING THE 2004 CHEVROLET ZAFIRA. With its Flex-7 seating system, 1.8L DOHC engine and numerous other features, this world car from Chevrolet is the best deal in its class when it comes to versatility. Place your bets on the Chevrolet Zafira now!

Chevrolet dealers and GM AutoWorld showrooms are open 7 days a week

CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE CENTER
1800-1888-4646

GM AutoWorld MAKATI
2296 Don Chino Roces Ave.,
(formerly Pasong Tamo) Makati City
Tel Nos 867-8183 to 87 / 894-1976
Fax No 894-5495

GM AutoWorld QUEZON AVENUE
1231 Quezon Ave. Quezon City
Tel. Nos 374-1250 to 59 / 413-8133
372-8001 to 02 / 415-8879
Fax No.: 372-8008

GM AutoWorld SHAW
500 Shaw Blvd. Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos. 535-4944 / 535-4938
533-1263
Tel./ Fax No. 535-4937 / 535-4935

Chevrolet Pasig
92-102 E. Rodriguez Jr., Avenue
C5 Bo. Ugong, Pasig City
Tel No. 672-1484 to 88

Chevrolet Pampanga
San Fernando - Olongapo Highway
City of San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel. No (045) 963-3333

GM AutoWorld CEBU
Gov. Cuenco Ave., Cebu City
Tel No (32) 234-0426
Fax No. (32) 231-7780

See the Chevrolet Zafira at
www.generalmotors.com.ph

New vehicle tax law: Boon or bane?

FULL TANK

Al Mendoza

AS EXPECTED, President Macapagal-Arroyo last week signed into law the new excise tax scheme on automobiles. The move would impose clear and, hopefully, lower tax rates on vehicles sold throughout the country.

The President said that with the new law, which really does not generate that much in taxes as the government had envisioned, more investments from vehicle manufacturers abroad would come in and thus, increase revenue collections in the process.

In short, the new law's positive effects will not be felt overnight. It will bear fruition on a long-term basis through a perceived renewed confidence on the country's economic resurgence.

* * *

Already, the major players, among them Toyota, Honda, Mitsubishi and Nissan, had been feeling the economic pinch long before the Chief Executive had signed the new excise tax into law. Mainly, the weakening peso is the culprit.

"While we were awaiting the signing of the new tax scheme into law, things beyond our control have cropped up as to affect the general direction of the market," said Danny Isla, Toyota Motor Philippines' no-nonsense vice president. "For one, our customers have been kept in the dark too long as to when they'd finally buy their new cars. For another, the peso has been absorbing a severe thrashing by the almighty dollar. Suddenly, the market has become so unpredictable, unwieldy even, because of external forces beyond our control."

Innumerable were the times when top executives of the major car companies, when the new law had been left hanging in the air for what seemed like eternity, were either summoned to Tokyo or called to snap meetings in Manila to find ways to wiggle their way out of binds triggered mainly by a government policy, or position, which, needless to say, appeared as directionless as a headless chicken.

"We were like thinking of ways all the time to extricate ourselves from a standstill," said Arnel Doria of Honda Cars Philippines. "Sadly, we had hands in handcuffs while trying to bail ourselves out of the fix."

* * *

The estimate is that with the new law, the government will merely realize an actual tax rate of from 2 percent to 24.4 percent compared to the present range of from 15 percent to 50 percent.

Still, Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho said the new law would hope to plug the loopholes in the excise taxation of automobiles that some assemblers have used to avoid paying taxes on all vehicles sold in the Philippines.

"We would now avoid a situation wherein automotive sales have been going up while tax collections from the industry have been going down due to the numerous exemptions arising from the current tax system," our Gil C. Cabacunan Jr. quoted Camacho as saying.

* * *

In a capsule, here's how the new tax scheme operates:

- Vehicles worth P600,000 and below would pay the minimum 2-percent excise tax.
- Vehicles worth P1.1 million and below would pay P12,000 plus 20 percent of value in excess of P600,000.
- Vehicles worth P2.1 million and below would be charged P112,000 plus 40 percent of value in excess of P1.1 million.
- Vehicles worth more than P2.1 million would be charged P512,000 plus 60 percent of value in excess of P2.1 million.

Camacho said that although the new law would raise only P213.3 million in new revenues (or less than 10 percent of current collection of P2.5 billion a year), he assured the public that low prices for sedans would generate more sales and therefore "more taxes." He said the new tax scheme could inspire car assemblers to be export oriented.

Last year, President Macapagal unleashed a robust policy on export subsidies and a ban on used-vehicle imports. Alas, both schemes have yet to be implemented.

Bottom line is, is the new vehicle tax scheme propoor or antirich? You be the judge.

* * *

Here's a glass to Isuzu Philippines Corp. for having successfully observed the month of August as the "Customer Awareness Month." The core of the event is Isuzu's recognition of its workforce "for a job well done." With its theme "Teamwork and Dedication: Gateway to Customer Satisfaction," Isuzu was able to maintain its position as one of the top three automotive manufacturers in the Philippines for the first half of 2003. So, to Bal, Myrna and Rommel, take a bow.

* * *

QUOTE ME. I will repeat it because it needs repeating: Traffic signs in the metropolis are made mainly as a source of corruption for most of our traffic enforcers. If you can't believe that, you must be somewhere else.

Audi A6: For those who expect to be in control

THE BEST endorsement anyone can make for a car is to sit behind its wheel. This is the kind of endorsement that the Audi A6 has gotten from Germany's business elite, according to an independent study. And this appears to be the kind of endorsement the A6 is gaining locally.

Take a look at the distinctive A6 going past you in traffic. More often than not, its owner is behind the wheel.

2 big reasons

There is reason for this. Actually, two big reasons quite apart from a basic design that a popular car magazine describes as "one of the most original and handsome big car designs in 20 years."

The A6 being sold locally through authorized distributor Auto Prominence Corp. has the best of Audi's Quattro and Tiptronic technologies.

No ordinary system

Audi's Quattro is not your ordinary all-wheel drive system. It's a permanent all-wheel drive system with a plus. Sensors in the wheels and other parts of the system sense which wheel or wheels are getting the best grip and which wheels are slipping or not getting any traction. The Quattro system then takes into consideration everything that is happening to the car—whether it is cornering sharply, abruptly braking, running on loose surfaces, and the driver's input, i.e. the pressure on the accelerator or brake pedal, the turn of the steering wheel and the distribution of power to the wheels.

This makes the Audi Quattro a very fun yet very safe vehicle to drive. The same system also makes the vehicle a very smooth and comfortable drive in traffic.

Audi's five-speed automatic transmission system with Tiptronic technology adds to the fun by giving the driver the option to choose gears or when to downshift or upshift.

Gear selection

When engaged in D or drive, the Tiptronic automatic transmission uses what Audi calls the Dynamic Shift Program to select gears. Gear selection depends on a lot of factors, including engine and vehicle speed, road conditions and the driver's input or his foot's pressure on the pedals. The system also incorporates driving style in order to come up with the smoothest shift in gears and optimum use of engine power for every driving situation.

When the driver wants to take over the shifting chores, he merely slips the shifter to manual mode and upshifts by lightly tapping the lever forward and downshifts by lightly pulling on the lever. The selected gear is displayed on the instrument panel.

Gear ratios are tuned to provide high pulling power and good acceleration in lower gears and to help cut down on fuel consumption and engine noise in the higher gears.

Now, think of Quattro and Tiptronic technology with the A6's 2.4 liter, six-cylinder engine, a compact V6 block that breathes through five valves per cylinder to provide a powerful yet refined performance.

The best way to experience the A6 is to drive it. Check one out at the Auto Prominence dealership at 2326 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City.

AUTO EXTREME AUTO BYTES

Catch AUTO EXTREME every Saturday, 2:30 PM on RPN 9 and log on to www.autoextreme.tv

HOW do I improve my brakes performance by adding other features?

—Benjamin U. Okafor of Novaliches

Since the front brakes do most of the work, many vehicles are equipped with disc brakes on the front axle and drum brakes on the rear. Disc brakes offer superior performance by far—and we told you why in a previous edition of Autobytes. If you're sure it's not going to void your vehicle's warranty, you can opt to have a competent mechanic upgrade your rear brakes to disc brakes as well.

Next, you can look at your brake pads. When it comes to evaluating brake performance, the friction that brake pads generate against the rotors, the brake pads' operating temperature range and their ability to resist fade are important. The brake pad material rubbing against the disc brake rotor generates the friction that slows the vehicle.

Stock disc brake pads are fine for the average driver. However, the driving enthusiast looking to enhance his car's brake performance has several other choices that provide a wider operating temperature so that brakes are effective when cold and resist fade when hot. Brake fade is when brake pads, brake rotors and/or brake fluid are heated so much that they lose some of their ability to slow the vehicle effectively.

If you find that merely changing brake pads is not enough, then you may also want to mate upgraded brake pads with enhanced rotors, designed to fit your vehicle's original equipment braking system. Enlarging the brake rotor allows you to handle higher levels of heat.

Upgrading the caliper will also provide additional clamping force.

But before anything else, let's not forget the basics. Brake pads and brake rotors are wear items and as such, should be inspected regularly and replaced as necessary. And always use high-quality brake fluids and be sure it is of the DOT rating specified in your owner's manual.

Mitsubishi rides high on Greenfield economy

MITSUBISHI Motors Philippines Corp. president and chief executive officer Teruhiko Shibata aptly revealed what the economy will be like in the future, especially at Greenfield City in Santa Rosa, Laguna, when he recently led the groundbreaking ceremonies of Amcar Automotive Corp., the latest addition to a select group of Mitsubishi car dealers.

Projecting a big surge in demand from the Calabarzon (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon) area, Shibata said Mitsubishi has awarded Amcar the dealership anchored at Greenfield City to serve the needs of the emerging market.

Optimism

"We are optimistic with the continuous growth in the Philippines' business front, particularly here in Laguna. We share the vision for Greenfield City and we are proud to be a partner with Amcar and Greenfield Development Corp. to serve as the 'engine' for South Luzon development," he stated.

Amcar president Cirilo Tayao, a former Mitsubishi ranking executive, said the Greenfield City outlet, particularly at the Greenfield Automall, is Mitsubishi's 41st facility in the country, which will be equipped with a world-class showroom, service and parts sales center.

Tayao estimated a sizable portion of the market as Amcar's customers, who usually have to go to Metro Manila to avail themselves of automotive dealers, particularly the kind of service that Mitsubishi has perfected through the years.

"Amcar is particularly keen on serving clients from Laguna's San Pedro–Santa Cruz growth corridor, encompassing the bustling towns of Sta. Rosa, Biñan, Cabuyao, Calamba and Los Baños," he disclosed, adding that his firm will be at the heart of the planned Laguna Central Business District as envisioned by the GDC for Greenfield City.

ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

First locator

Greenfield City is a vast tract of industrial, commercial and residential land owned and being developed by GDC. With a master plan designed to be the first and only existing CBD outside of Metro Manila, it already boasts of a mall; world-class wet market; integrated transport system; Greenfield Auto Park, the home of Ford Motors; Ateneo graduate school; and Greenfield Automall, where Amcar is the first locator.

Duane Santos, GDC vice president, said Greenfield Automall is a five-hectare integrated automotive retail and commercial establishment designed to become a more manicured "Banawe Strip" of the South. Enhanced by landscaped pavements and lush environment, the mall will also have themed café bars, car accessories and auto parts shops, driving and mechanical schools, and even car restoration specialties, he added.

Santos disclosed that the development of Greenfield Automall is hinged on the fact that Sta. Rosa is host to a number of other industrial parks and residential areas, thus earning the title "The Little Detroit of the Philippines" for having as locators the manufacturing plants of Ford, Toyota, Honda, Nissan, Mazda and Isuzu.

"Apart from its proximity to Metro Manila (about 45 kilometers), Greenfield City is at the heart of the Calabarzon growth corridor—the most ideal choice for investment site in the country," he pointed out.

Shibata confirmed the analysis, saying that Mitsubishi is keen on adding more investment to serve the emerging market at Greenfield City.

Largest dealership network

Sustaining a dominant position in the industry for over two decades, Mitsubishi currently maintains the largest dealership network gained through enhanced customer service standards and products with superior value for money, the Japanese executive noted.

"With the Afta-CEPT (Asean Free Trade Agreement-Common Effective Preferential Tariff) scheme now in place, the market will become more competitive, making it difficult to defend market share. We'll be the leader in the commercial vehicle segment as we plan to introduce two new additional models in this category," he disclosed.

He said these are in addition to the all-new Mitsubishi Lancer and Mitsubishi Space Gear passenger van launched during the first half of this year, which have propelled his firm's market share in their respective segment and earned for Mitsubishi the reputation of providing reliable, exciting and durable vehicles to Filipinos.

Car lovers raise funds for street kids

TO A CAR enthusiast, the streets are seen as our playground—a home away from home, so to speak. But to someone less fortunate, the street is literally their first and only home.

C! Magazine, Rustan Commercial Corp. and the Manila Sports Car Club decided to drive a message home with "Dads Take the Lead."

This was aimed at using the immense pulling power of the country's finest automobiles to draw attention to our street children issue and to raise some badly needed funds for the Don Bosco Pugad Foundation.

The event kicked off at the Rustan's open parking lot on June 13 and ended on June 15, Father's Day. Cars of all vintages and varied stables, awed bystanders and even guests from the nearby hotels who came out of their rooms to take a closer look.

MANILA Sports Car Club members hold a motorcade along Ayala Avenue.

After a brief photo op and Q and A with the Manila Sports Car Club members, a convoy was formed that circled the city streets drawing long envious glances and some jaw-dropping reactions. The cast included several Ferraris including the 360 Modena, complete with F1 paddle shifter and the elusive yet incredibly seductive Dino.

Some would say there is nothing more taunting than a pair of Porsches, even if some of them were more than 30 years old. BMW was well represented with its Z's 1, 3 and 4. American muscle cars were also there for those who prefer their rides raw and unadulterated. The Brits were not to be outdone and flaunted the show-stopping E-type Jaguar.

The cars may have had their gaps of over 50 years between them, but one thing they had in common was that they were all beautiful. And the most wonderful part of all was that each person who stopped and headed to Rustan's to pick up a gift for Dad, contributed in his own way to the cause.

TRAILBLAZE WITH THULE

Maximize your SUV's load capacity and functionality with Thule roof rack system from Sweden like this Nissan X-Trail fitted with an X1 roofbox and Thule Freeway Bike Rack. Thule roof rack system is an approved OEM product by Nissan Motor Co. of Japan. It is the only roof rack system sold in the country that conforms with EU standards and is certified by Ford Q1, QS9000, German DIN 75302 and Environmental Certificate ISO 14001. For inquiries on how to equip the X-Trail for the great outdoors, call 744-6367. Thule roof rack systems are also available at Nissan Gallery Ortigas and Nissan Quezon Avenue.

September 9 and car prices

ON THE ROAD

Aida Sevilla-Mendoza

IF you have been listening to FM radio lately, you may have heard a commercial telling listeners that they will save as much as P781,000 if they buy an Isuzu vehicle before Sept. 9.

Save P781,000? Wow, that's enough to buy a new compact car such as a Toyota Corolla Altis or a Honda Civic VTi! Like almost everyone else, I jumped to the conclusion that it must have something to do with the new excise tax law on cars and that this new tax would take effect on Sept. 9.

But a phone call to Isuzu's Myrna Gonzales informed me otherwise. What will probably take effect on Sept. 9 and thereby drive up prices of AUVs (Asian utility vehicles) and SUVs (sport utility vehicles) by about 50 percent, is Revenue Regulation (RR) 4-2003. The SRP (suggested retail price) of the Isuzu Trooper will increase by P781,000 from P1,569,000 to P2,350,000 and the SRP of Isuzu's entry-level AUV, the Hi-Lander Crosswind XL, will increase by P335,000 to P1 million.

Save ₱781,000!
StephR.

Stricter interpretation

RR 4-2003 is nothing new. It is the Bureau of Internal Revenue's stricter interpretation of the 10-seater capacity ruling that exempted a vehicle model from the excise tax. The auto industry players to be hit hardest by RR 4-2003 are those that manufacture mostly light commercial vehicles (SUVs, pickup trucks, minivans, AUVs) such as Isuzu and Universal Motors Corp. (truck-based Nissan vehicles). When the Act Rationalizing the Excise Tax on Automobiles that President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo signed last Friday is implemented, RR 4-2003 will be rendered moot and academic.

The new excise tax law bases a motor vehicle's tax on the net manufacturer's price instead of engine displacement, fuel type and seating capacity. Since it will supersede RR 4-2003, the automobile industry is asking the Department of Finance (DoF) to defer RR 4-2003 until the new excise tax law is fully implemented.

The problem is that RR 4-2003 has been deferred three times already due to the slow progress of the new excise tax bill through the halls of Congress. And although the President has already signed the bicameral final version of the bill into law, it cannot be fully implemented until 15 days after the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) are published. Since the DoF is given 30 days to come up with the IRR from the day the President signed the new tax measure, in the worst case scenario the IRR will be published on Sept. 30 and the new tax will be implemented starting Oct. 15.

50% increase

So if the BIR pushes through with the imposition of RR 4-2003 on Sept. 9, the prices of 10-seater AUVs, SUVs and minivans previously exempted from the excise tax will soar by around 50 percent. RR 4-2003 will cause buyers to postpone their purchases until mid-October, when the new excise tax law is implemented. As Elizabeth Lee of Universal Motors Corp. predicts, "Buyers won't buy. So everyone loses—the BIR, the industry, the consumer. It's not a win-win situation for anyone."

Auto manufacturers were divided on the issue of asking the DoF to extend the 45-day transition period for the new excise tax law, with those producing mostly light commercial vehicles in favor and those assembling mostly passenger cars against. In fact, the latter wanted to shorten the 45-day grace period because the new law reduces the tax rates on passenger cars.

But all are against the imposition of RR 4-2003 on Sept. 9. Danny Isla of Toyota Motor Philippines, manufacturer of Revo, the country's best-selling AUV, thinks that RR 4-2003 is unnecessary since the President has already signed the new excise tax law. Isla is hoping that the BIR will come up with the IRR this week, assuming that the BIR has been working on it all this time and it only needs some fine-tuning.

Forex impact

However, Isla forewarns those planning to buy passenger cars about the impact of the depreciating peso on SRPs. Buyers who have been postponing their purchases to avail of lower SRPs as a result of the new excise tax scheme may find it negated or at least diminished by the foreign exchange factor. Isla said that because of the rising value of the US dollar versus the Philippine peso, the SRP of the Revo AUV has already increased by P10,000 to P15,000; the Hi-Ace van by about P25,000 and the Hi-Lux 4x4 pickup by about P20,000. The SRPs of Toyota passenger cars may go up next if the peso continues to fall.

Summing up, auto manufacturers are in suspense wondering whether the DoF will slap them with RR 4-2003 next Tuesday and thereby plunge the industry into a zero-sales situation for 45 days. As of this writing, the DoF has not issued any reassuring public statement to the contrary.

* * *

TODAY'S BUMPER STICKER: Cancer cures smoking.

* * *

(E-mail comments to asevilla@inquirer.com.ph.)

TECHNICIANS repair a Nissan Patrol.

Nissan launches new vehicle 3-year warranty

UNIVERSAL Motors Corp., the authorized assembler and distributor of Nissan light commercial and recreational vehicles, and its principal, Nissan Motor Co. Ltd. Japan, once again strengthen their commitment and extend their gratitude toward valued Nissan patrons by recently launching the Nissan new vehicle three-year warranty.

Starting August this year, UMC offers more worry-free and hassle-free driving to all newly purchased brand-new units of the Nissan Frontier, Patrol, Terrano, Urvan Estate, Escapade and Shuttle. All units bought at authorized UMC dealerships will enjoy warranty coverage for three years or 100,000 kilometers, whichever comes first. This upgraded warranty coverage assures loyal patrons of greater peace of mind that only Nissan can offer.

The new Nissan vehicle three-year warranty is for genuine parts, genuine service and greater peace of mind.

Sport Truck and Custom Car show all set

MOTORING aficionados will again congregate to witness another sizzling automotive exposition when the 2003 Caltex Delo Sport Truck and Custom Car Show finally unfolds on Oct. 1-5 at the Megatrade Hall of SM Megamall B, Ortigas Center, Edsa, Mandaluyong City.

Organized by TradeShow International Inc., the event has developed its own loyal following of car enthusiasts, mostly form the younger generation. These are the individuals who enjoy modifying and customizing their cars to their maximum potential in the hope of creating an automotive statement that is a cut above the rest.

The car show will showcase the best machines in motor sports racing, prostreet, monster trucks, custom SUVs and custom cars.

The event also serves as the best venue for companies to showcase their world-class products and services such as high performance and racing parts, trick suspensions, aero body kits, performance wheels and tires, exhaust systems, customs interiors, custom paint jobs, custom body works and mega sound systems.

Competitions

The open-class competition for sport trucks and custom cars is always the main crowd drawer. It brings out the best in Filipino craftsmanship, design executions and attention to details.

In fact, most of the aero body kits used by competing cars are proudly Pinoy designed and made. More than 50 custom cars and sport trucks will be competing this year for the top award of "Best of Show" in each division. Also at stake are Best in Category, Best in Paint, Best Engine Display, Best Interior, Best Car Display, Best Mural and Best Sound System.

Another major highlight in the event is the search for Ms Motor Racing Philippines. The contest is open to all promotional girls of corporate exhibitors during the five-day show.

Those qualified should possess a pleasing personality, great looks and most importantly, good knowledge of the product or service the contest is endorsing. Several automotive-related seminars are also scheduled during the show and entrance is free to all show visitors.

The show is presented by Caltex Delo. Major sponsors are Ambi Pur, Sunrise Holiday Concepts, Samsung, Digital Resources, 105.1 Crossover, Citylite 88.3, Magic 89.9, 99.5 RT and Wave 89.1.

Rapidé
Car Care Aware Club

LIFETIME FREE!
• Battery Check
• Charging

FREE!
• Terminal Replacement on Battery Purchase (when needed)

LIFETIME FREE!
• Mounting, Balancing incl. wheel weights.
• Tire Repair/Vulcanizing, Tire Valve & Tire Rotation

• 25% off on Alignment.

Your 5th Oil Change for FREE

VALID THRU OCTOBER 31, 2003.

INSTANT MEMBERSHIP on
• 1ST OIL & FILTER CHANGE
• BATTERY PURCHASE
• TIRE PURCHASE

FREE SAFETY INSPECTION

CUT-OUT AD & PRESENT IT AT TIME OF PURCHASE. NOBODY BEATS Rapidé. NOBODY.

OIL & FILTER CHANGE for GASOLINE Engines
• Up to 5 liters ACDelco Oil.
• New Oil Filter.
• Coupon must be presented at time of purchase
• Offer good to passenger cars & light trucks
• Not valid with any other coupon offers
VALID THRU OCT 31 2003
₱499 ONLY

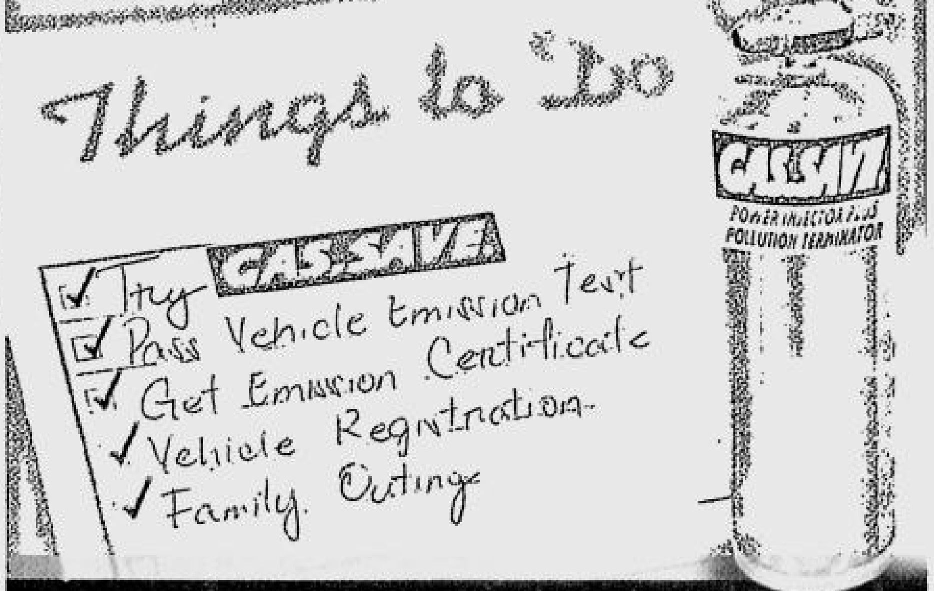
LIFETIME BRAKE WARRANTY
Installation Includes:
• 45-Pt. Brake Inspection
• Brake Clean & Adjust
• Brake Fluid Flush & Fill
VALID THRU OCT. 31, 2003.
10% OFF

AIRCON CLEANING PACKAGE
• Freon Evacuation & Re-Charging.
• Pulldown Evaporator
• Compressor Oil Refill
• Parts not included
• Most Cars & Light Trucks only.
• Imported vehicles excluded.
VALID THRU OCT 31, 2003

	SINGLE UNIT	DUAL UNIT
134-A	₱1,500	₱2,000
R-12	₱800	₱1,400

AVAILABLE FOR FRANCHISING, INQUIRE AT 895-9486.
LIFETIME WARRANTY BRAKES HOTLINE: 899-1966 OR TEXT US AT 0918-9RAPIDE (9727433)

VEHICLE EMISSION PROBLEMS?



Things to Do
☑ Try GAS-SAVE
☑ Pass Vehicle Emission Test
☑ Get Emission Certificate
✓ Vehicle Registration
✓ Family Outing

GAS SAVE POWER INJECTOR PLUS POLLUTION TERMINATOR

IMMEDIATELY PASS LTO'S EMISSION TESTS! OR YOUR MONEY BACK!!

• AUTOS • AUVs • BUSES • PICK-UPs • TRUCKS • SUVs • VANS • 4x4s

GAS-SAVE POWER INJECTOR PLUS POLLUTION TERMINATOR

Guaranteed to make your engine -- gas or diesel -- immediately pass the LTO's emission certification tests! Or your money back!

PLUS, BIG FUEL SAVINGS that should offset and pay back its price. *Fast!* In less than a year on most gasoline engines. On some "guzzlers", in only a few months!

And on diesels, possible instant savings also on expensive calibrations, which may not yet be necessary. (Cost of calibration is about twice our price!)

Besides immediate certification (and registration), big savings & better mileage, "GAS.SAVE" also means Cleaner Air. For you, your children and all your loved ones!

And MORE POWER. For you and your engine!

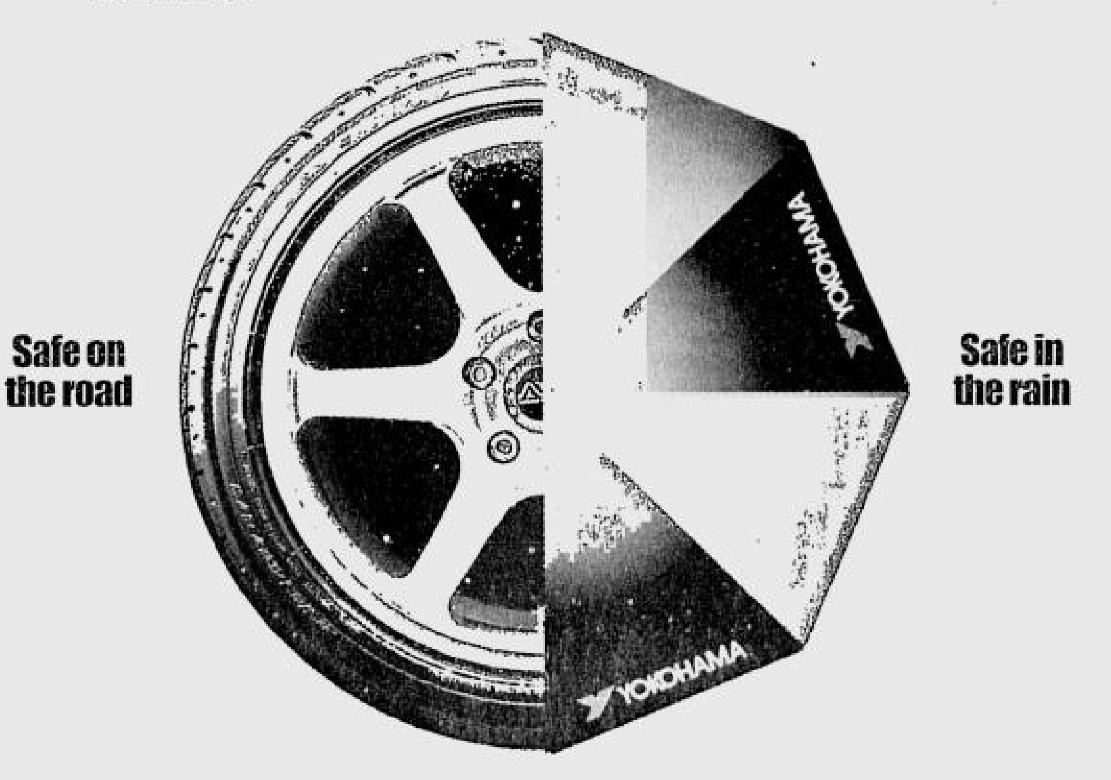
Manufactured by: GAS SAVE Power Injector Plus (Registered Philippine Patent March 5, 2003)

EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTOR

CARSAVERS COMPLETE AUTO SERVICES AND BODY REPAIRS www.carsavers.com
The people who brought you: Ziebart For better looking, longer lasting cars.

MAKATI : 5560 South Super Highway (beside Buendia Flyover), Makati City Tel. No. 889-4144
PASIG : E. Rodriguez Ave. cor. J. Cruz St., (behind V. Verde 2) Ugong, Pasig City Tel. Nos.: 671-9801 to 05
MANILA : U.N. Ave. cor. Romualdez St., Paco, Manila Tel Nos. 525-6294 / 525-6273
ALSO AVAILABLE AT TRUEVALUE HARDWARE STORES AND CATS MOTORS INC

FREE UMBRELLAS FROM YOKOHAMA!



Get your umbrella with every purchase of 2 passenger car tires or 2 light truck tires. Also, a free high performance golf umbrella comes with every purchase of 2 high performance tires.

Promo period is from August 1 to September 30, 2003.

High-Performance Tires
V102 ES100 A539 V801

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3070 Series of 2003.

www.yokohamatire-asia.com

Know it. Ride it. YOKOHAMA

Promo available from authorized distributors and other participating Yokohama Tire outlets:

HIGH-PERFORMANCE TIRE DEALERS
AUTOBAHN West Ave. Quezon City Tel. 920-6238
AUTOPLUS 230 EDSA Greenhills East, Mandaluyong City Tel. 726-0590
BANAWE CAR CARE CENTER [illegible] Quezon City Tel. 712-0938
CATS 207 EDSA Greenhills East, Mandaluyong City Tel. 722-1102
CUSTOM WHEELS 105 A.G. Araneta Ave. Quezon City Tel. 715-0251 715-0345
DKC TIRE CENTER 287 A.P. [illegible] St. Cubao, Quezon City Tel. 475-3522
GNS TIRE & SERVICE CENTER [illegible] Dagupan City Tel. (075) 523-0138
LUBETECH [illegible] San Mateo, Rizal Tel. 997-3712
ROADSTAR ENTERPRISES [illegible] San Antonio Vill., Makati City Tel. 899-2913
SPEED SEVEN 106 Timog Ave. Quezon City Tel. 927-8060
TIRE MASTERS AUTO CARE CENTER, INC [illegible] Makati City Tel. 897-2326 to 27
WHEEL GALLERY, INC [illegible] Greenhills San Juan, M.M. Tel. 726-0965

METRO MANILA
ACHIEVERS SALES CORPORATION [illegible] Mandaluyong City Tel. 533-9127 533-9131
ALPHA PERFORMANCE SALES CENTER [illegible] Marikina City Tel. 934-6635 to 36
ASIAWAY MARKETING [illegible] Pasay City Tel. [illegible]
CAPITAL INDUSTRIES, INC 147 [illegible] Cubao Q.C. Tel. 911-3168 911-5388
CRG LUBE & TIRE CENTER [illegible] Sucat, Parañaque City Tel. [illegible]
EXPRESS DISTRIBUTORS, INC [illegible] Manila Tel. [illegible]
FASTRACK [illegible] Pasig City Tel. 671-9935 to 39
F.D. LADAO SALES, INC 73 Timog Avenue Quezon City Tel. [illegible]
GLOBAL TYRE TRADE DISTRIBUTION, INC [illegible] Quezon City Tel. [illegible]
GOLDEN POINT AUTO CARE, INC. [illegible] Makati City Tel. [illegible]
KAPITOLYO AUTO TIRE TECH [illegible] Pasig City Tel. [illegible]
MINERVA TYRE GALLERY [illegible] Muntinlupa City Tel. [illegible]
POWERWAY MARKETING [illegible] Sucat, Parañaque City Tel. [illegible]
REMAL ENTERPRISES, INC [illegible] Quezon City Tel. [illegible]
SUPER MILER SALES CORP [illegible] Cavite City Tel. [illegible]
SUPERWAY MARKETING [illegible] Muntinlupa City Tel. [illegible]
YOKOHAMA SUSANA HEIGHTS [illegible] Muntinlupa City Tel. [illegible]

Suzuki improves its Shogun bike

Text and photos by Charles E. Buban

ONE striking point about evolution is that a thing gets better every generation—a fact that is obviously true in any model of vehicles, including motorcycles.

Last week was Suzuki's turn to present its newest model in personal use motorcycle, an improvement from the previous variant, the Shogun R 110.

The Shogun R 125 is the latest in the Japanese motorcycle maker's fleet of four-stroke underbone two-wheelers—otherwise known as lifestyle bikes, since its riders use them as their personal transport much like a sedan car is in four-wheelers.

"The Shogun R 125 is a strong response to the changing needs and tastes of Southeast Asian riders by offering many advantages over other 125cc underbone motorcycles in the market today," according to Suzuki Philippines Inc. VP for Manufacturing Jun Hashimoto.

THE INSTRUMENT panel is light and compact, thanks to a stepping-motor speedometer and an LCD odometer and fuel gauge.

Growing interest

There is a growing interest for two wheelers as a safe and common mode of transport just like what is evident in countries like Thailand, Malaysia and Vietnam.

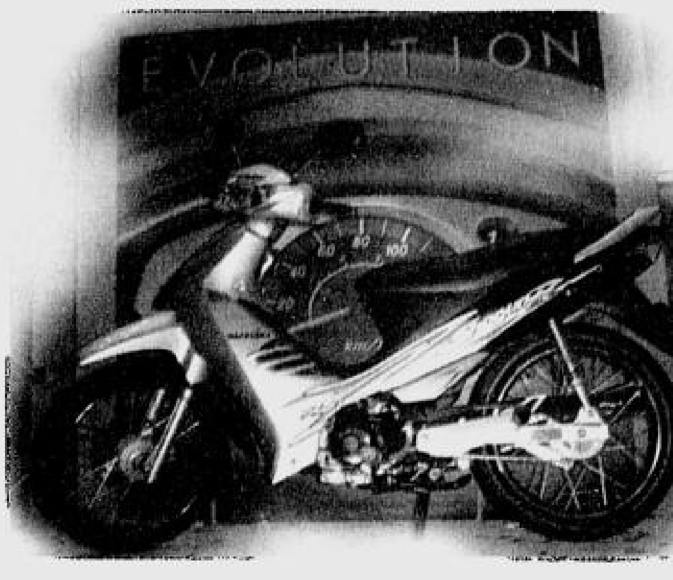
"Other than for a tricycle, the market is now shifting towards buying for something that they can themselves drive," said Hashimoto.

This is why the Suzuki brand, well known for motorcycles for tricycles, has come out with a personal use bike models such as the affordable 110cc Smash, the sporty Raider 125 and the popular Shogun 110.

"And with the market's clamor for more fuel efficient and environment-friendly machines, the development of the Shogun R 125 is clearly the next step in motorcycle evolution," he added.

Extensively tested

Hashimoto revealed the Shogun R 125 was extensively tested at the Suzuki Research and Development Center in Thailand using the most sophisticated emission testing machine available to improve its emissions and durability.



THE NEW Shogun evokes a much sportier stance and possesses other features that make it among the top choices in the market.

"The motorcycle market in the Philippines is growing and with an increasing number we don't want the level of pollution to also increase," Hashimoto explained.

Last year, the country's total wholesale volume has reached 224,000 units, representing a 10.3 percent increase from the previous year.

Sales volume of personal use motorcycles increased in by 37 percent from the previous year with the underbone segment, to which the Shogun R 125 belongs showing a strong sales growth (in volume terms) of 61.3 percent.

Slim and sporty

When Suzuki designers conceived the Shogun R 125, they made sure its bodywork will look slim to convey an aerodynamic and fluid character.

Chief among this design concept is the triangle motif, which is noticeable in the bike's front mudguard, headlights, leg shields, handle bar cover, frame cover and tail lamp.

"The bike's main appeal is its sporty and refined look but despite its slim bodywork our engineers made sure its 10.3L compartment is spacious enough to even accommodate a half helmet," described Suzuki's Paula Popple.

Even the instrument panel is redesigned to make it more compact, lighter and yet as reliable as ever. With digital readout (using LCD) for its odometer and fuel gauge, cumbersome meter cables were no longer needed and thus more space is saved.

Four-stroke power

This latest Shogun is powered by a much bigger 125cc four-stroke single overhead cam engine.

According to Hashimoto, this newly developed engine offers ample torque at low speeds and class-leading power and torque at mid-range speeds.

This means fuel efficiency since the engine can give out ample power without using up too much fuel.

"(With this engine) the rider can accelerate smoothly and capably when overtaking and can easily go uphill even when carrying a passenger," he added.

Design changes

The engine combustion and mechanical efficiencies are brought about by several design changes:

- The shape of the combustion chamber was optimized.
- The intake and exhaust ports were widened and the bend angles were reduced.
- The flat-type piston shape was employed rather than the usual valve-recess type.

"In the Shogun R 125, we even made some modifications in the crankcase oil level that is 5 mm lower than the Shogun R 110, use a low-tension spring in the camchain tensioner, and some more other slight changes that contribute greatly to the bike's improved performance and fuel economy," explained Hashimoto.

Safety features

The bike's head and taillight design is quite interesting, too. Apart from multi-reflectorized twin bulb headlights in front, safety at night and bad weather is assured by a high-mounted stop lamp that uses LED lights in combination with the taillight, thus doubling visibility of the bike.

Another breakthrough concept employed with the Shogun R 125 is the use of ignition switch with a built-in antitheft device.

A magnetic cover over the the keyhole of the ignition switch reduces the chance of theft when the bike is parked.

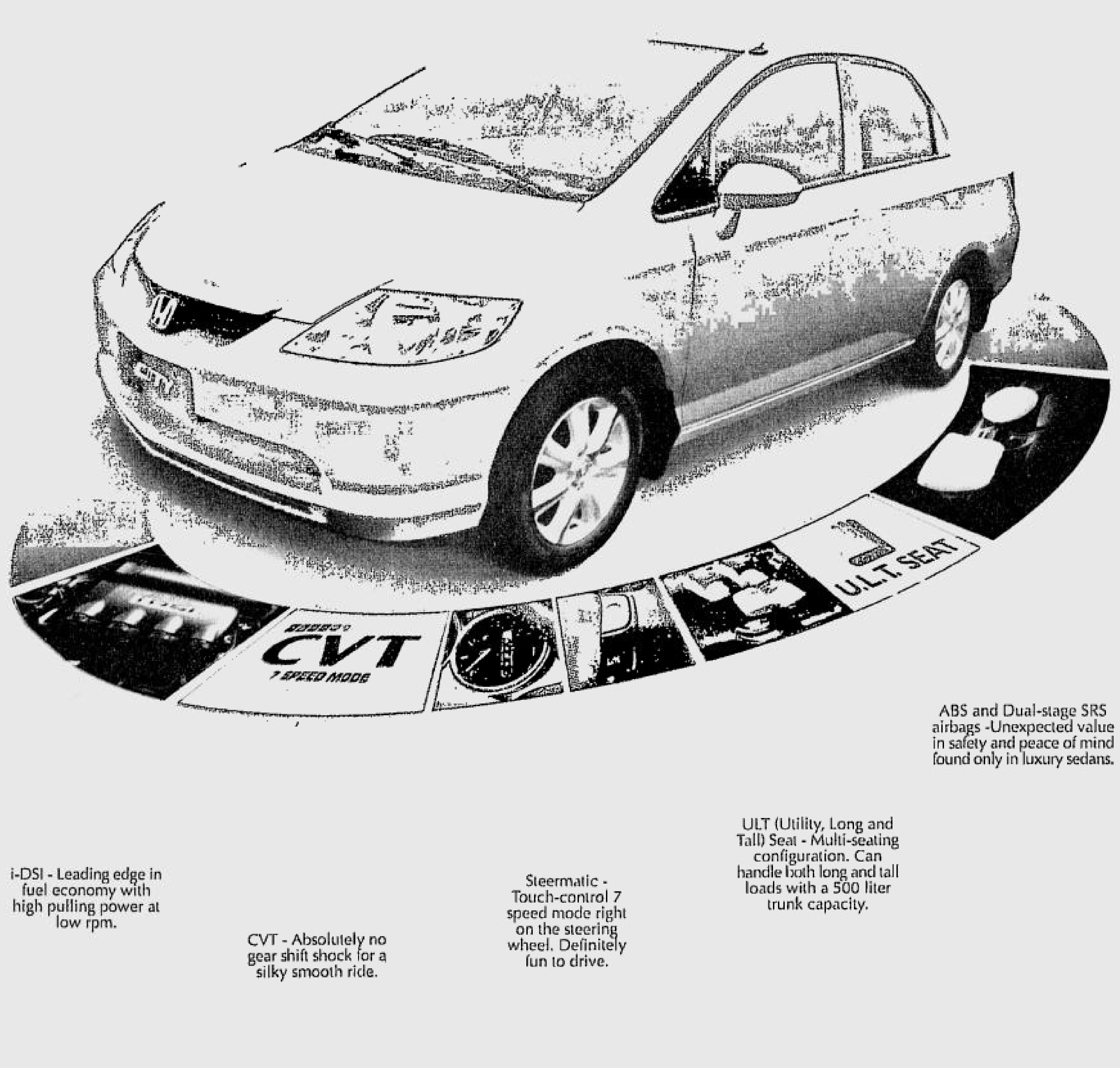
This device is opened only with the owner's key, which contains a specially designed magnet.

"All in all this new bike variant of the Shogun family provides freedom for its riders," described Hashimoto. "And with its safety and wonderful features Shogun R 125 riders are more confident to explore more places."

A BRIGHT LED stop lamp is built into the grab bar above a sporty tail lamp.

HONDA
The Power of Dreams

All. I. Want.



ABS and Dual-stage SRS airbags -Unexpected value in safety and peace of mind found only in luxury sedans.

ULT (Utility, Long and Tall) Seat - Multi-seating configuration. Can handle both long and tall loads with a 500 liter trunk capacity.

i-DSI - Leading edge in fuel economy with high pulling power at low rpm.

Steermatic - Touch-control 7 speed mode right on the steering wheel. Definitely fun to drive.

CVT - Absolutely no gear shift shock for a silky smooth ride.

Starts at P539,000.*

All-New
CITY

*City 1.3 A M/T variant
Some of the features indicated above are available on the S variant only. Photo may vary from actual unit.

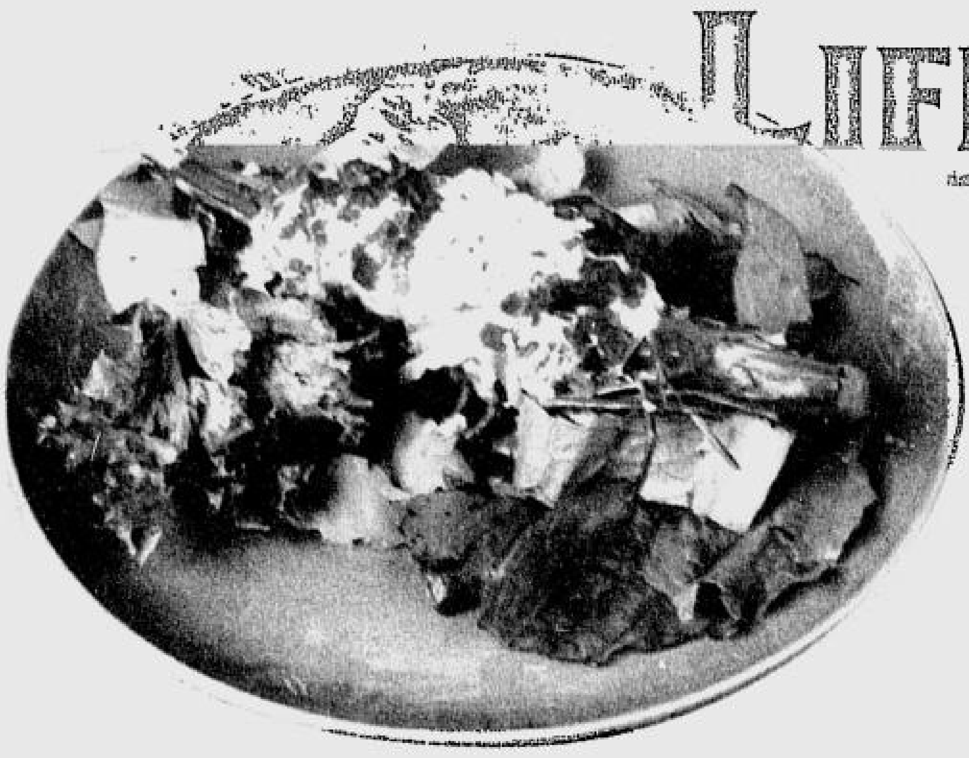
For details, call or visit any of the following authorized Honda dealerships nationwide.

www.hondaphil.com

LIFESTYLE

Feedback, text us at (0919) 880-3354 or (0916) 200-1160
or e-mail us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso



SHRIMP Thermidor

EDIBLE plants and aromatic herbs have found a shrine in the Espiritu weekend retreat cum restaurant.

FAMILY of good cooks: Christian Espiritu with wife Gliceria and daughter-in-law Jewel

Christian Espiritu, who dressed the high and mighty in his time, now offers al fresco dining in Laguna

From couture to cuisine

Text by Rowena C. Burgos
Photos by Roger Carpio

AT VERANDA, food is not complicated or pretentious. It's made of fresh ingredients and with a lot of love and passion.

Located at the Limcaoco Subdivision in Cabuyao, Laguna, Veranda (tels. (049) 8322763/ 0917-2407898/ 0917-2412834) offers simple yet delicious food served in a paradise-like setting of natural beauty and contemplation.

"What makes the dishes special is how well we mix their ingredients," says Christian Espiritu, former fashion designer who owns and manages Veranda with his son Paul.

Most of the time, Christian himself goes to the markets in Parañaque or Alabang to haggle with vendors and seek out the freshest fish and vegetables and the best cuts of meat.

The restaurant's menu features the recipes of Christian and his wife, Gliceria, daughter-in-law Jewel and granddaughter Ghia.

Instinctual in their approach to cooking, the family does not follow specified measures of culinary art but is more subjective in its approach. "We rely more on how good the food tastes once the ingredients are blended," Christian says.

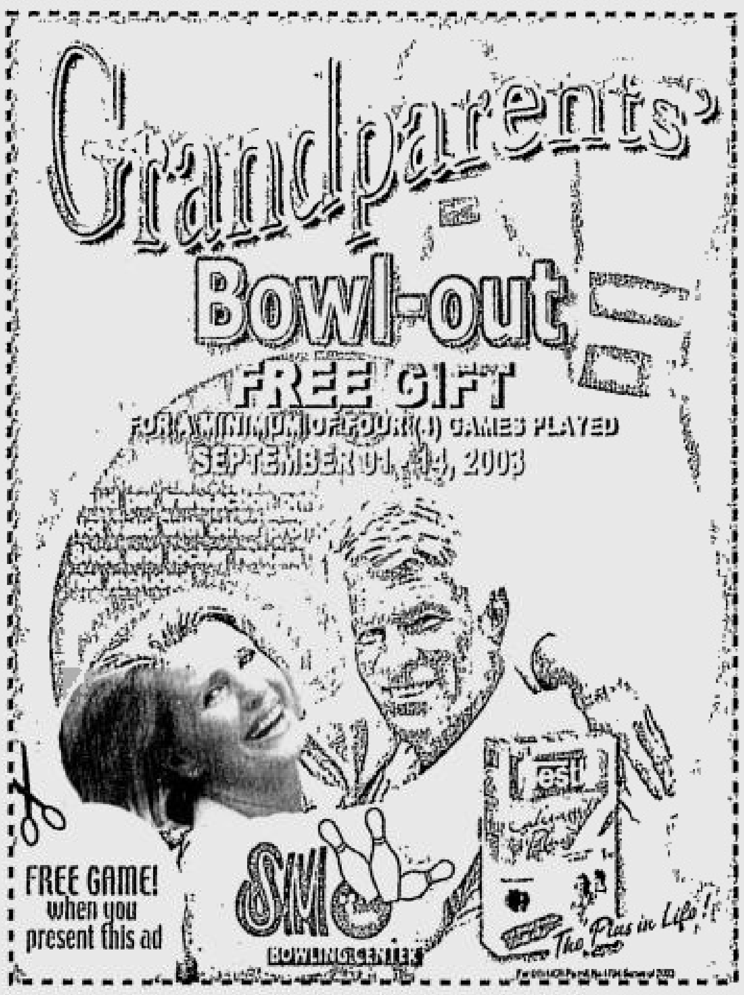
Open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., the 60-seater Veranda serves breakfast, lunch and dinner treats. It also offers catering service with set meals such as this one: Baked Tahong with cheese and crushed garlic,

FROM/ D2

onstage 2nyt

Cowboy Grill	Cowboy Grill	Cowboy Grill
LAS PIÑAS ☎ 801.7644	FEEDBACK HUDYAT	NO ENTRANCE FEE
MABINI ☎ 525.1474	STREETLIFE AFTER 8/ICE BOX	NO ENTRANCE FEE
MALATE ☎ 521.8143	M-PEOPLE HEADWORKZ	NO ENTRANCE FEE
NOVALICHES ☎ 936.9757	GABRIELA SERSIDE/MISSMO	I-AXE EVERY TUESDAY OF SEPT. BLAMBINA EVERY FRIDAY OF SEPT.
BIÑAN ☎(049)511.7268	ICE KENDI MR.ROXY	I-AXE EVERY MONDAY OF SEPT.
TIA MARIA'S	TIA MARIA'S	TIA MARIA'S
JUPITER ☎ 890.4735	0 2 7 FIRST SIGHT	NO ENTRANCE FEE
REMEDIOS ☎ 522.0429	BRIDGES SYMPOSIUM	NO ENTRANCE FEE
KAMPA FOREST	ENTWINE T.M. KALAW COR. PARADE ST. LUNETA PARK, MANILA	FREE PULUTAN EVERY 2 PITCHERS OR 5 BOTTLES OF BEER ☎ 400-7435/525-0514

SEPTEMBER 04 THURSDAY



Grandparents' Bowl-out
FREE GIFT
FOR A MINIMUM OF FOUR (4) GAMES PLAYED
SEPTEMBER 01-14, 2003
FREE GAME! when you present this ad
SM BOWLING CENTER
The Plus in Life!

SUCCESS GUARANTEED
after our Famous Training!
Enrol in a Package, P2,300 per course only
- Speech Dynamics: Master Oral Skills
- Practical Grammar & Conversations : Fluency and Mastery of the English Language
- Public Speaking • Personality in Action
- Verbal Advantage: Complete Package
- Survival English: or Basic English
Scheds: TTH 7-8:30PM; Sat 2-5PM; SUN 9-1PM
WCT Kiddie Academy
(From 3 to 15 years old)
(Speech, Theater Arts, Grammar, English Fluency, Reading & Comprehension, Character Bldg. & Personality Dev.) Saturdays 9-12 NN or 1-4 PM
• TOEFL • TSE • IELTS
Corporate Training & Private Tutoring are available
WCT Wilma Cruz-Tapalla
ACADEME OF SPEECH AND PERSONALITY
LEGARDA, SAMPALOC 2600 Rizal Hall, Arellano University
SINCE 1967
Providence Bldg. 55 Annapolis, Greenhills
736-7656
736-7657
736-7644
c/o Sampaloc
www.wctacademe.com

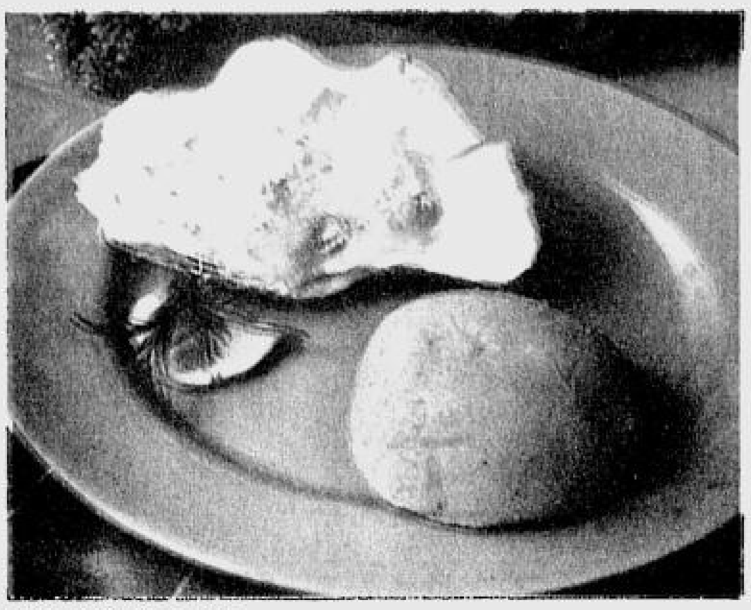
25% OFF SALE
ALL ITEMS
Aug.15- Sept.15
Cinderella Glorietta,
Shopwise Libis & Alabang,
SM Megamall, Landmark,
Sta Lucia East Dept. Store
First Aid Greenbelt 3 (available soon)
Main Showroom: 78 Cordillera St. Cor
Quezon Ave.,Quezon City
Tel. 711-4312 / 711-4394
CINEMA SECRETS
Professional Camouflage Make-ups
DOH-BFAD Permit #0745 S. 2003

Health, Fitness, Face & Skin Centers
SLIMMERS WORLD
ONLY P42 PER DAY on Full Health Programmes
LOSE 10 TO 20 LBS IN 6 WEEKS WITH BIO DYNAMICS GUARANTEED.
plus FREE PERSONAL TRAINING FOR ALL ENROLLEES TODAY.
plus FREE BLEACHING CAPSULES FOR ALL SKIN PROGRAMME ENROLLEES TODAY.
Breakthrough body, face & skin solutions.
Get a beautiful result with a guarantee!
HOTLINES: 887-3533/ 09178984744
SKIN CLINIC HOTLINES: 887-1331/09164099312

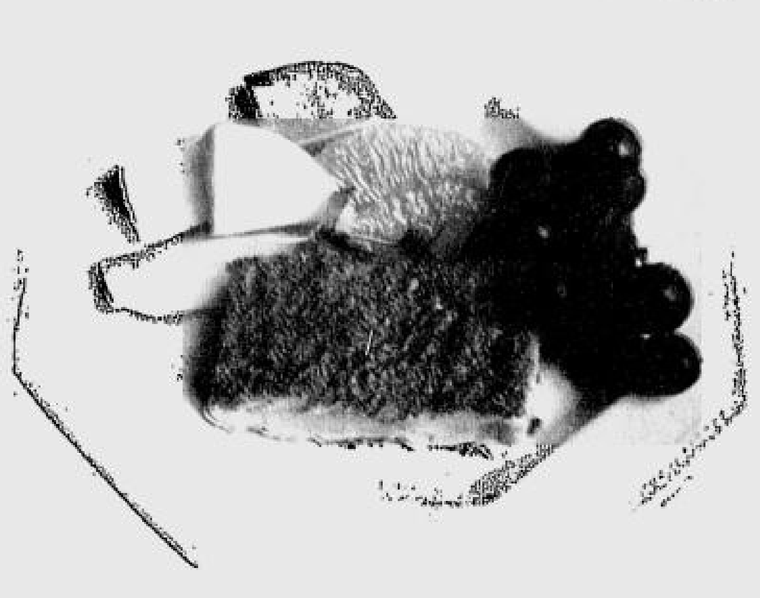
CALL US
www.slimmersworld.com.ph
inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph

ALABANG Gemma/Raffi 809-0396	LEGASPI VILL. Jaja/Ira 893-8934
BINONDO Thelma/Lhet 242-1312	MALATE Daisy/Tin 536-0619
CALOOCAN Sherry/Bheng 365-7653	MEGAMALL Sheila/Lani 631-3869
CEBU Mabs/Riva 231-3254	PASAY RD Butchy 887-1335
GREENHILLS Analyn 726-6505	PASIG Kaye/JC 681-5333
H. V. DELA COSTA Lizelle 814-0138	SM NORTH Ruth/Michelle 929-5429
	SUBIC Beth 252-6514

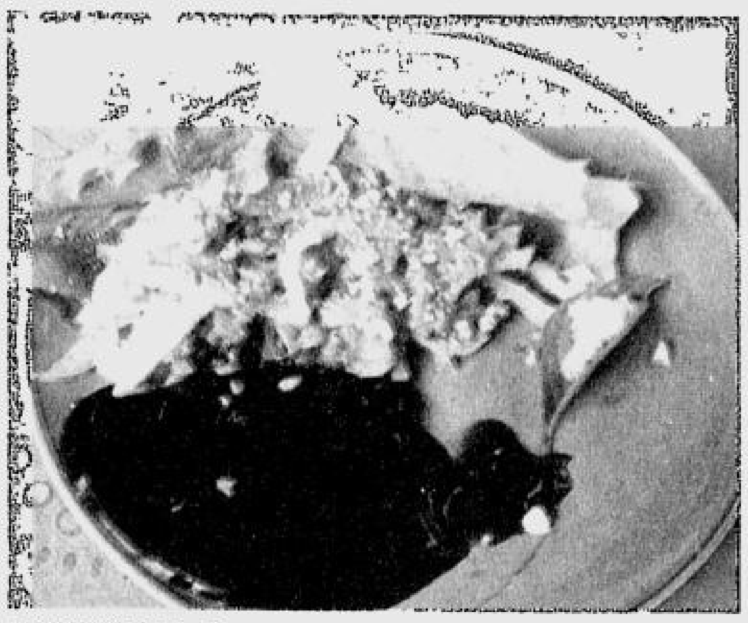
SKIN: ALABANG 7750587 BINONDO 2420728 MALATE 5259891 MEGAMALL 6377543 PASAY RD. 8873530 PASIG 637-3814



SEAFOOD Casserole

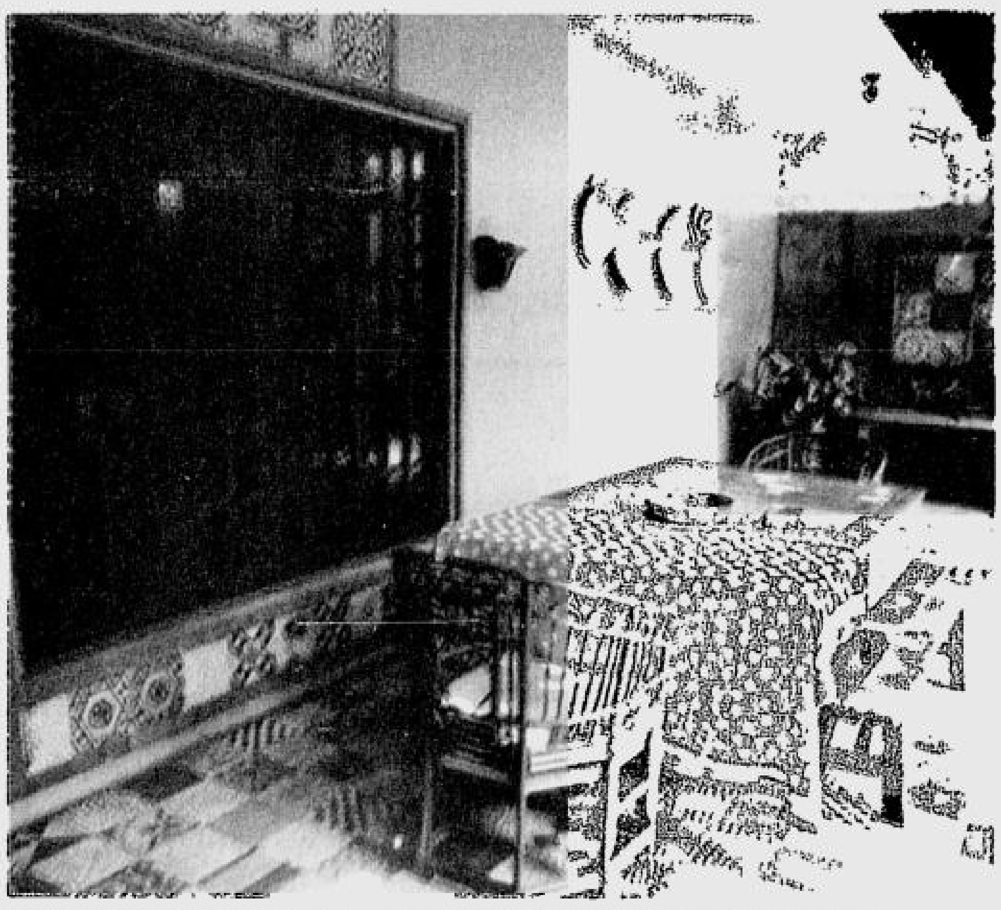


CHEESY Ice Box Cake with fresh fruits



LUMPIANG Hubad

SUNNY YELLOW tablecloth and lots of greens complement the personalized service and family recipes.



THE FOOD Veranda serves comes straight from the kitchen of the Espiritus' home.

From couture to cuisine

From page D1

Ground Pork with Shrimps and Water Chestnuts served on crispy fried glass noodles lettuce, Pasta Negra, Spare Ribs ala Veranda, Cheesy Ice Box Cake and Coffee or Tea.

"Clients should give us a week of preparation. We interview first the party organizer to know if there are vegetarian guests or old people who have special food preferences. It's just like haute couture," says Christian, who knows whereof he speaks.

Weekend retreat

Gliceria, a former professor of Home Economics at the University of Santo Tomas, inherited the 1,200-sq m place from her parents. The place used to be a stable for horses.

A Moroccan-style house was built on the lot, which Christian filled with pocket gardens of edible plants and aromatic herbs that are offered for sale. "This place serves as a weekend retreat for us," he says.

Veranda's dining area is bathed in bright and contrasting hues. Diners can experience a subtle change of rhythm and notice a riot of colors clamoring for attention as a gentle breeze stirs the foliage. Antique-looking furniture, chairs and decor are used in keeping with the character of the Espiritus' comfortable home.

In January, the couple opened a *carinderia*. After four months, it was transformed into a restaurant. "Since it opened, the meals were always sold out. But the number of diners dwindled eventually because the food prices were more expensive than those of nearby *carinderias*," Christian says.

Family affair

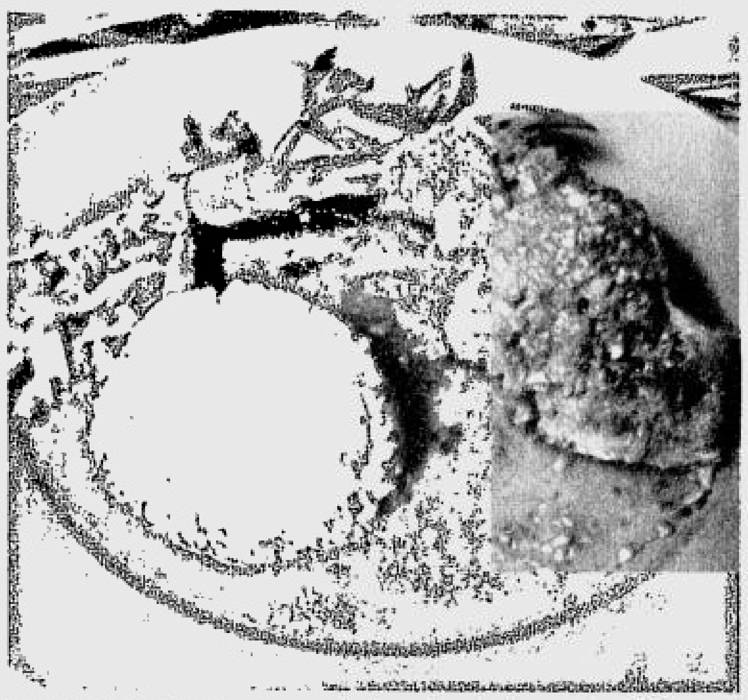
Veranda, he says, has been inspired by restaurants in Europe where one or two family members cook and wait on tables. "This is what I want Veranda to be known for—a family enterprise that features recipes handed down to us by our ancestors."

Christian also remembers his childhood days in Parañaque when their family reunions were often held on Sundays. "One unforgettable dish was Laoya, which is similar to cocido. It's a stew of vegetables and oxtail with thick soup served with crushed grilled eggplant, garlic, vinegar and fish sauce. This dish is now part of Veranda's menu."

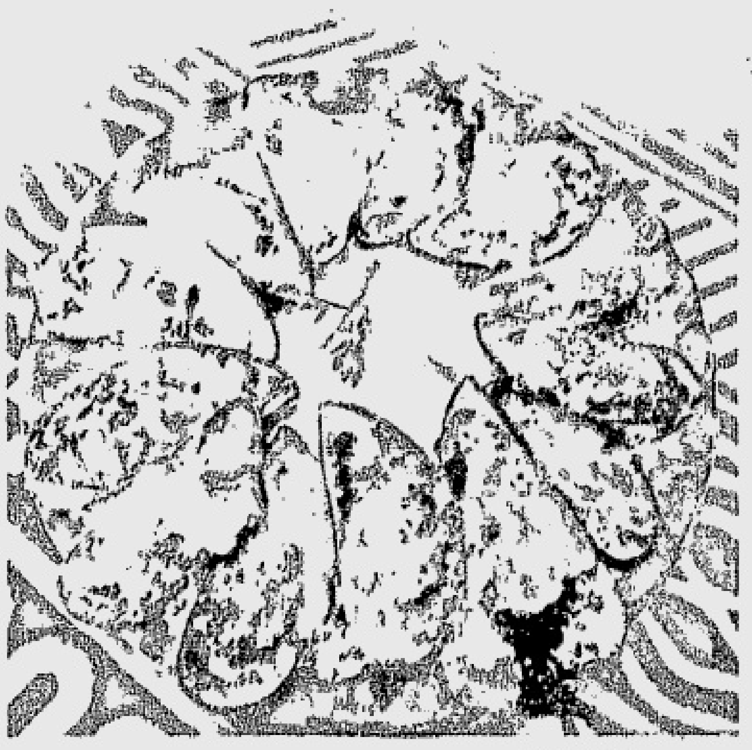
When Christian retired from fashion designing in 1994 and settled in New York, he usually bought ready-to-eat food. Eventually he got bored with take-out and tried cooking Filipino meals for himself and Filipino friends he'd invite over. "This is where I realized that the best part of entertaining is setting up tables and talking to friends."

At Veranda, Christian and his family offer dishes that are a gift to the senses. "Food helps us express our creativity. And we've found that now, more than ever, people want to reconnect with their friends and family and go to a place they can feel comfortable and taken cared of. That's what Veranda provides."

E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.com.ph



TINUTUNGANG Manok contains burnt grated coconut, which makes the dish flavorful.



BAKED Tahong

Comments on no-smoking law

THE CONSUMER

Marietta Velasco Giron

MAYBE, just maybe, it's still too early to praise the recently passed no-smoking law. It may take months before we see the law take effect, and let's pray it doesn't go the way of some laws that "simply wither on the vine" and get "relegated to oblivion," as one reader so aptly described it.

Here's a letter from non-smoker Dionne Tan (stiffneck_7@hotmail.com): "I was happy to see signs of the local ordinance banning smoking in establishments in Makati. I was even happier when the no-smoking law was approved.

"But isn't the no-smoking law supposed to be implemented nationwide, and not only in Makati? How come malls like SM Manila, Robinsons Place and New Divisoria Mall still allow mallgoers to smoke inside their establishments, especially in their bingo halls? They even have smoking sections in restaurants (which are not separate enclosed rooms). We also ate at a restaurant on Soler Street, Manila, where customers can smoke.

"I hope some government agency will start monitoring establishments not abiding with the law. Better yet, the agency should have a hotline where non-smokers can report establishments that violate the no-smoking law."

Well, dear Dionne and, for that matter, readers who reported to us establishments that allowed smoking in their premises—the new law does not take full effect until its implementing rules and regulations have been completed by the Department of Health and approved by the concerned authorities.

But that's not all it takes to implement a newly passed law. It has to be published first in the official gazette and major dailies, and that should take six to seven months. In the meantime, in the absence of any municipal ordinance, smokers can freely puff on their cigarettes.

We fully agree with readers who commented favorably on the no-smoking ordinance of Makati City. Al Leonides (tobcomph@hotmail.com) wrote: "Concerned consumers can express their support to Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay on the anti-smoking ordinance by logging on to the Makati website www.makati.gov.ph."

Readers can write to Leonides for information on the adverse health effects of tobacco smoking.

For more information on the no-smoking law and other matters concerning health information, call Dr. Jessica de Leon, officer in charge of the health education and promotion division of the Department of Health, at 7438440 and 7116670 local 2601. We thank her for enlightening us on some health issues.

Another scam story

Jenny Roca shares with our readers another scam story reminiscent of what journalist Linda Bolido related in a previous issue of this column.

She wrote: "A man came to our network gaming and computer rental station where we have 18 computer units. He said he was an agent for a certain network gaming alliance, which was a national club of computer gaming stations. According to him, we should pay P2,750 per computer to become a member of the alliance. Once a member, we would be entitled to receive a set of three new games per computer, and we would have the power to close down any gaming station that was not a member of the club. He threatened us that if we did not join the club, he would have our shop closed down by the NBI! He had the gall to come back another day to ask if we were joining the club.

"Like Ms Bolido, we checked the contact number and address he gave us. It was bogus, of course. We also asked a big Internet café-gaming center chain we used to frequent and was told they had never heard of that alliance. I advise entrepreneurs not to be easily fazed by threats from these scam artists. Small businesses, like ours, are easy targets. Let's safeguard what we are working so hard for."

Ask about consumer protection act

In connection with the observance of Consumer Welfare Month in October, consumers can send this column stories and questions related to the Consumer Act starting next week until end of October.

Questions will be answered by Andres S. Cristobal Jr., undersecretary of the Department of Trade and Industry, who promises to answer the queries in layman's terms.

"The Filipino public has long remained silent, or ignorant, about their rights under the Consumer Act," says Cristobal. He is hoping this year's consumer month celebration will raise awareness and promote a proactive attitude among the buying public.

E-mail the author at mgiron@i-manila.com.ph or lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

---

Reggie Aspiras' classes in September

SEPT. 5—Main Course and Side Dishes: Salt Baked Chicken with Mushroom Ragout, Marinated Pork Loin with Sour Cream Potatoes and Nut Gravy, Curried Lamb Chops with Shallot Flan, Stuffed Prawns with Puree of Arugula, Crusted Fish with Olive Tomato Sauce and Calamari Crisps

Sept. 8—All New Tea, Jam and Bread: The Best Honey, Raisin, Poppy Seed, Wheat Bread and Dinner Roll Recipes. Jams: Fresh Strawberry, Blueberry, Fig, Banana and Orange Tea Concoctions-Cinnamon Spice, Lemon Spice, Mixed Fruit Tea.

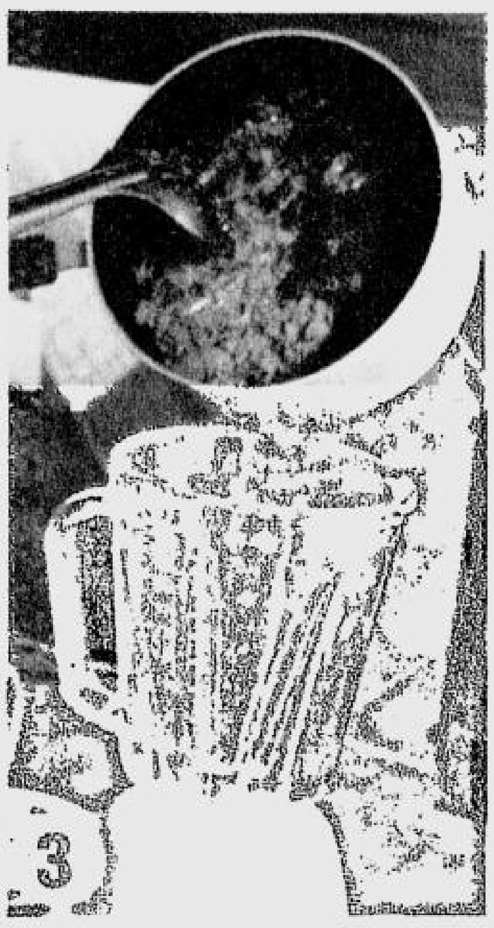
Sept. 10 (morning class)—Rum Cakes: Classic, Orange, Lemon, Apple, Mocha, Chocolate; (afternoon class)—Roasted Suckling Pig done two ways: Asian Style with Bamboo Rice and Asian Salad, Roast Suckling Pig with Fruit Relish and Exotic Green Salad

Sept. 12—Mongolian Barbecue: learn to prepare Mongolian barbeque with everything on it. Condiments and excellent sauces. Cooked on the spot.

Monday and Friday classes start at 9 a.m.; Wednesdays, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1:30-4: 30 p.m.

Call Cynthia at 9289296/9273008/6335162.

The Reggie Aspiras School of Culinary Arts is located at the 3rd floor, Bon Appetit, Shangri-La Edsa, Mandaluyong.



REMOVE from heat and let cool. Transfer to an electric blender and purée the liver mixture. (If it's a bit dry, add a tablespoon of olive oil.)

POUR wine over the liver mixture.

GRADUALLY add cream cheese and purée again.

TRANSFER to a paté bowl preferably with lid.

Make your own classy spread

Text by Vangie Baga-Reyes
Photos by Roger Carpio

IF YOU want an elegant, but quick and easy-to-make spread for crackers, toasts, chips, or whatever for a party or informal get-together, paté is the answer.

Patés are so easy to make, and the recipe below will give you enough for parties of any kind. It takes five minutes to gently fry the chopped onion, garlic and chicken livers, and another five minutes to purée the mixture.

"This inexpensive homemade chicken liver paté is creamy, rich, tangy but not too heavy. You could eat the whole thing like it's ice cream," says Faye Zurilla-Tañada, who has been preparing patés and other spreads for quite a long time now.

Tañada had a catering service back in the '90s, but she decided to concentrate on her bottled pasta sauces, salad dressings, cookies, cakes and spreads (tels. 6603891 and 0917-6299649). Her spreads include *dulong*, *tinapa*, fish roe, pesto, smoked salmon and dill, mushroom tapenade and liver paté.

Tañada says the chicken paté, made with butter and cream cheese, is lighter and more digestible than the pork one. You should make sure, however, that the liver is free of sinews and of parts that have turned green from the bitter bile that has seeped in.

For more zest, red wine is poured into the liver mixture, which is blended into a smooth paste.

Patés are usually chilled, so it's best to put the paste in a serving dish—a terrine-style container looks nice—that can be covered tightly for refrigeration. Smoothen the top of the paté and decorate with desired herbs or sliced olives. Patés often need to be left untouched for a few minutes for flavors to blend well. They can be made two days in advance for parties.

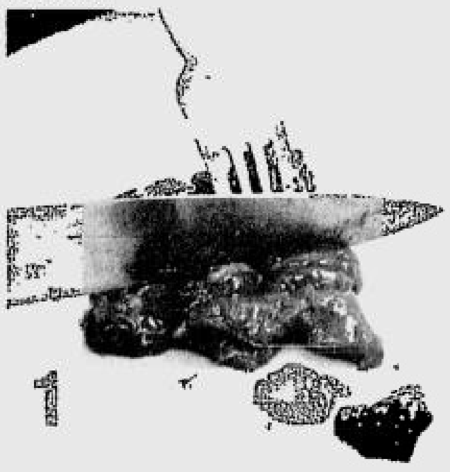
Before serving the paté, preheat oven to 375°F. Slice bread and place on a baking sheet and bake till lightly golden. Remove the toast from the oven and spread with the chicken liver mixture.

Ingredients:

¼ k chicken liver, cleaned
3 cloves garlic, minced
1 small onion bulb , chopped
1 bar cream cheese, softened
a dash of salt, pepper and rosemary
1 tbsp butter, softened
1 tbsp olive oil
1 tbsp red wine (Merlot)

For suggestions, e-mail the author at vbaga@inquirer.com.ph

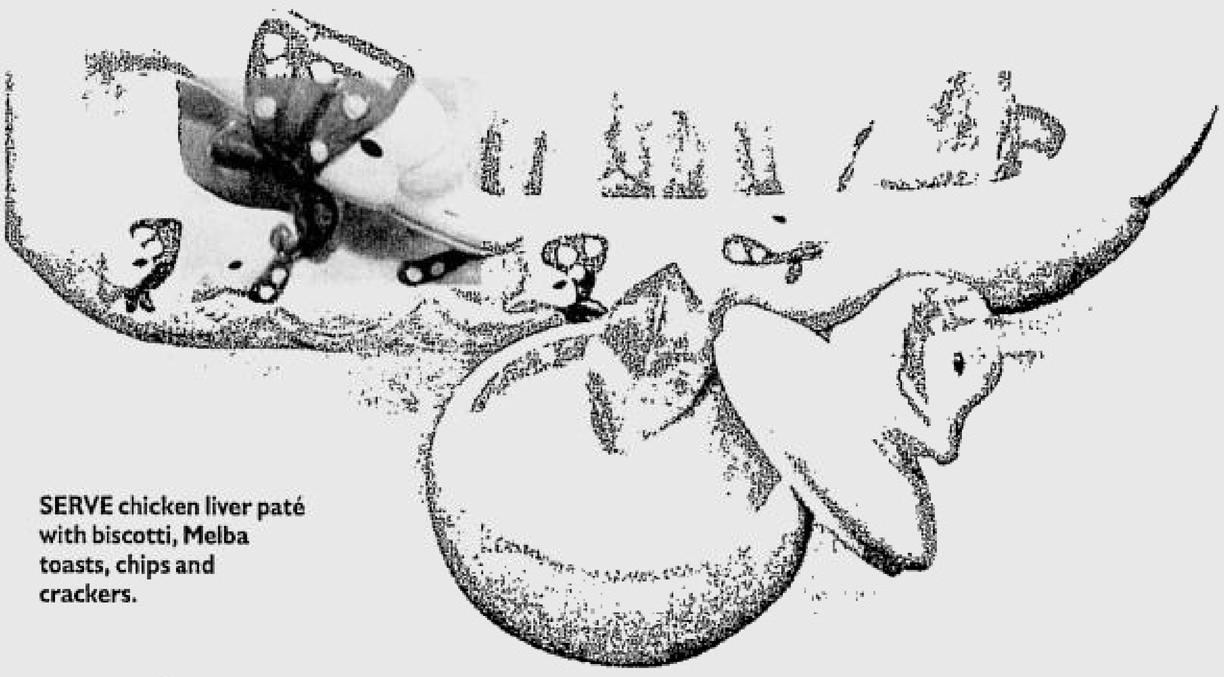
IN A MEDIUM saucepan, heat olive oil and butter over low fire. Add garlic and onions until transparent. Add liver and continue cooking till liver is done. Add salt, pepper and rosemary.



CHOP chicken liver. Set aside.

Paté is the answer if you want easy-to-make but elegant spreads

TO SEAL in the freshness, add melted butter on top of the paté then chill.



SERVE chicken liver paté with biscotti, Melba toasts, chips and crackers.

Kitchen magic for unexpected guests

By Dorothy MJ Ferreria
Contributor

YOU have just finished cooking dinner and suddenly your son appears with study group buddies. Half of you want to scream because you've just prepared a simple dinner for the family. The other half cautions you to remain calm and think of something to serve pronto. Given such a scenario, a well-stocked kitchen pantry is your best friend.

If you have just cooked *chopsuey*, you can just add some fried *bihon* noodles to come up with a trendy crispy *pancit*. Or why not boil some flat noodles and make a white sauce, then top with grated cheese and fried bacon bits for an impromptu pasta carbonara?

There are a lot of possibilities, including food delivery. But we all have budgets to follow, and food delivery should always be a last resort.

As long as you have basic ingredients and recipes on hand, cooking for unplanned visitors should be a breeze

Pork Stew in a Hurry

¼ c corn oil
1 head garlic, minced
1 c chopped onions
1 c sliced bell pepper
3 pcs hotdog or spicy sausage, sliced diagonally
1 pc laurel leaf
400 g tomato sauce
390 g can pork and beans
2 c water
1 pc pork or beef broth cube
coarsely ground black pepper to taste
1 tsp Spanish paprika
lechon kawali chopped into serving portions

Sauté garlic, onions and bell pepper in corn oil over medium heat. Then add hotdog, laurel, tomato sauce, pork and beans, water and beef broth cube. Allow to boil. Then add the pepper, paprika and chopped *lechon kawali*. Allow to boil and then simmer for 10 minutes.

Impromptu Pasta Carbonara

¼ c butter
¼ c all purpose flour
2 c full cream milk
1 pc chicken broth cube
200 g fettuccine noodles, cooked as package directs
200 g bacon, cooked and crumbled
1 c grated cheddar cheese

Melt the butter in a saucepan. Add the flour and mix well with a wire whip until the butter absorbs the flour completely. Pour in milk and chicken cube. Continue to cook over low heat until creamy.

In a bowl, combine cooked noodles and the sauce. Toss gently and then transfer to a serving platter. Top with bacon and cheddar cheese.

Dorothy MJ Ferreria offers cooking, baking and cake decorating classes at Dorothy's Cooking School in QC and at the Julius Maggi Kitchen in Makati. Call 7217735.

	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner
MONDAY	Waffles with butter and hotcake syrup Crispy bacon Coffee, hot chocolate or iced tea Ripe mangoes	Chicken *tinola* with *sayote* and *sili* leaves Rice Bottled sweet beans with crushed ice and evap	Breaded porkchop Vegetable chopsuey Rice Mango crepe
TUESDAY	Corned beef omelet *Pan de sal* Butter and cheddar cheese Coffee or hot chocolate Fresh pineapple	Instant ham and corn soup Fried *maya maya* with sweet and sour sauce and pineapple chunks Rice or fried *bihon* Fruit gelatin	Vegetable *lumpia* Soy chicken Rice Canned fruit cocktail with crushed ice
WEDNESDAY	Cereal and milk American bread Butter, fruit jam or coco jam Vienna sausage Coffee, hot chocolate or iced tea	Chicken and pork *adobo* with quail eggs Sautéed Baguio beans with ground meat Rice Papaya	Instant cream of asparagus soup Boiled baby *bok choy* Beef steak with onions rings Rice Fresh lychee
THURSDAY	Fried eggs Garlic rice Sliced *embutido* Coffee, hot chocolate or fruit juice	Eggplant salad *Adobong pusit* Rice *Pichi pichi*	Tossed green salad Impromptu pasta carbonara Garlic bread Mocha ice cream
FRIDAY	Oatmeal Store-bought liver paté French bread Butter, cream cheese spread and cheddar cheese Coffee, hot chocolate or iced tea	Instant chicken noodle soup Pork stew in a hurry *Guisadong chicharo* Rice Mango *sago*	Clear soup *Daing na bangus* Chicken *caldereta* Rice Fresh fruit platter
SATURDAY	Toasted whole wheat bread Tuna sandwich filling Coffee, hot chocolate or iced tea	Lasagna Fried chicken wings Garlic bread Cheesecake	*Lumpiang shanghai* *Pancit canton* Fried *buchi*
SUNDAY	Garlic rice Fried *danggit* or *tuyo* Tomato and salted egg salad Coffee, hot chocolate or fresh fruit juice	Instant hot and sour soup *Siomai* Steamed fish Yang chow fried rice Almond jelly	Clam soup Buttered vegetables *Morcon* Rice Sans rival

---

Sense of hummus

From page D4

sion—ain't nothing like it! The nice thing about living in this so called hi-tech world of ours is that, Lipitor and Amargozin are available, 24/7. A tummy tuck and liposuction are just a drive and an appointment away!

Classic Caesar

For the croutons:
2 tbsp butter
2 tbsp olive oil
2 garlic cloves, halved
3 c 3/4-inch cubes of French bread

Preheat the oven to 350 °F. Melt butter with the oil, add garlic, and salt and pepper to taste over moderately low heat. Cook 2 minutes. Toss the bread cubes with the butter mixture, spread them on a baking sheet and bake until golden.

For the dressing:
4 flat anchovy fillets, or to taste
1 tbsp garlic, pounded to a paste, or to taste
1 tsp white wine vinegar
1 tsp fresh lemon juice
1 tsp Worcestershire sauce (optional)
1 tsp Dijon mustard
½ c olive oil
4 heads of romaine
Freshly grated Parmesan cheese
Bacon, crisp fried and chopped

Mash the anchovies with the garlic to form a paste and in a bowl (do not use aluminum bowls) whisk together the paste, the vinegar, the lemon juice, the Worcestershire sauce, and the mustard. Add the oil in a thin stream, whisking, and whisk the dressing until it is emulsified. In a large bowl toss the romaine with the croutons and the dressing until the salad is combined well and sprinkle the salad with the Parmesan, freshly cracked pepper and bacon.

Low-fat Caesar Salad Dressing

1 c plain nonfat yogurt
4 garlic cloves, chopped
1 tsp anchovy fillets
2 tbsp Dijon mustard
2 tsp Worcesteshire sauce

Combine ingredients in small bowl; whisk to blend. Season with pepper.

In a large bowl toss the romaine with the croutons and the dressing until the salad is combined well and sprinkle the salad with the Parmesan and freshly cracked pepper.

Variations: Chicken breast—pound chicken breast, season with salt and pepper.Add herbs such as rosemary and thyme. Grill until golden brown, top over tossed classic salad greens and serve.

My cooking class schedules, are posted elsewhere in this section.

E-mail the author at reggie1@skyinet.net

Mid-autumn festival is time to feast on moon cakes

By Nancy T. Lu
Contributor

THE CELEBRATION of the mid-Autumn Festival on the 15th of the eighth moon, Sept. 11 in the Gregorian calendar this year, is never complete without a helping of moon cakes. The age-old belief is that the cakes, which now come in a whole new range of flavors owing to the creativity of Chinese chefs, especially those from five-star hotels in Taipei, bring the cosmic roundness or completeness of the night of nights into the family.

The wonderful Chinese snacks or pastries, definitely round in shape, and usually made of a short dough baked to a golden brown, are now available locally. The fillings, traditionally a simple bean paste, nowadays take the added flavors of nuts, eggs, meats, preserved fruits, and other enriching ingredients. New recipes in Taipei are often copied quickly by resourceful entrepreneurs eager to cash in on the seasonal business.

The five-star Edsa Shangrila hotel at the Ortigas Center in Mandaluyong puts out mainly traditional moon cakes with fillings of lotus seed paste-cum-salted egg yolk as well as black beans and watermelon seeds. The more contemporary varieties have pineapple and green tea flavors.

Stiff business competition drove the five-star Grand Formosa Regent of Taipei a year ago to entice buyers with a promise of a solid gold coin tucked inside some moon cakes. Consumers searched in earnest for the hidden treasure.

What happened called to mind how mass support for the rebellion against the Manchu government was rallied in a true chapter in Chinese history. Strips of paper calling an armed uprising were tucked inside moon cakes.

TenRen's Tea, famous producer of the favorite Chinese beverage, sought to corner the business through special delivery service without extra charge to any point in Taiwan for a minimum order of only two boxes.

One moon cake flavor offered by TenRen Tea last year was a combination of pork and mushroom stew with a dash of oolong tea. The Chinese kitchen saw to it that even the moon cake became a tale in exquisite Chinese cuisine. Another recommended kind with fluffy and pinkish wrap from TenRen Tea was inspired by the Japanese *mochi* or glutinous ball, which was at the heart of the moon cake. Ordinary red tea lent its aroma to this recipe.

The packaging of moon cakes differs slightly each year. Tins and paper boxes of the past have given way to nice and useful wooden boxes at the Sherwood Taipei and the Howard Plaza. Transparent cylinders, which can be recycled for decorative purposes, were used to grab a sizable share of the highly competitive moon cake market in Taiwan.

The carton box at the Ritz Taipei was designed to look like a gold miniature cabinet with drawers for keeping trinkets and accessories long after the last bite of the gourmet food delight was digested. Edsa Shangri-La's drawer type of carton box comes in auspicious red.

Despite the pressure to roll out new ideas and designs, goddess Chang O—portrayed usually as a woman flying against a moon backdrop—has not been chased into oblivion. Her demure image still graces tin cans of traditional moon cakes.

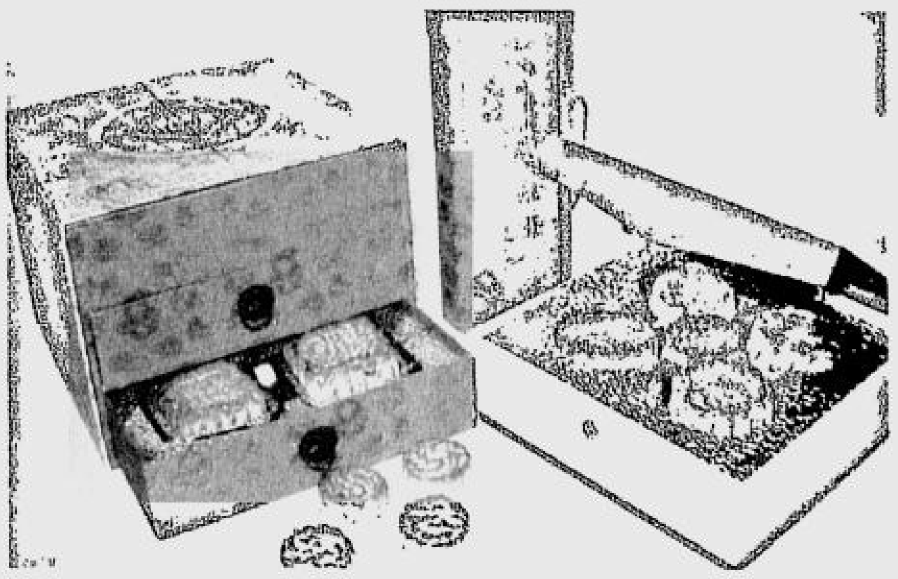
As the Chinese legend goes, after Shen I left his wife Chang O to go hunting one day, she noticed a beam of light on the roof. A delicious aroma also wafted through the air. Curiosity got the better of the wife, who climbed up a ladder to investigate. Finding the pill of immortality, she quickly helped herself to it and immediately she took on wings. She was no longer bound by the pull of gravity. When Shen I returned, the first thing he did was to look for the pill. He quizzed his wife when he couldn't find it.

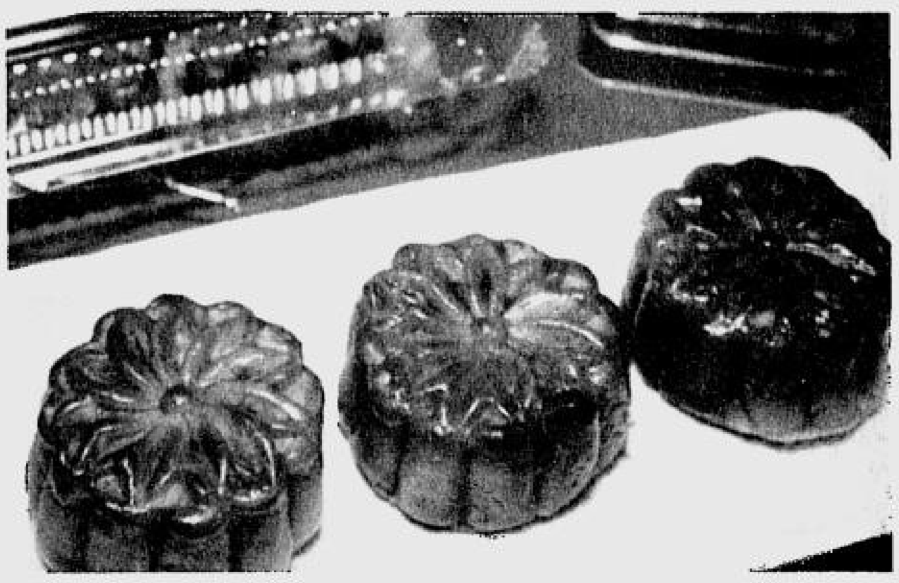
Seized with fear, Chang O flew out the window. He took his bow and gave chase. He could see his wife flying ahead of him in the full moon. Just as Shen I was doubling his speed, a wind blast struck him down. Chang O kept flying until she landed in a cold and luminous sphere. Cinnamon trees were the only living vegetation. She began coughing and expelled the cover of the pill of immortality. It was transformed at once into a white jade-like rabbit often portrayed with the goddess in illustrations.

Chang O drank some dew to wash away a bitter taste in her mouth and ate some cinnamon. And she lived on the moon.

During the mid-Autumn Festival, traditionally a time for family reunion, people gather under the open sky, look up and gaze at the full moon with goddess Chang O cutting a silhouette against it. Moon cakes are relished and washed down with good tea.

MAXIM's moon cakes with twin yolks and white and yellow lotus seeds are sold at Maxim restaurants in Makati, Peking Garden (2/L, Glorietta 2, tels. 8179066/67) and Jade Garden (Greenbelt 1, tels. 8922636 and 8124548).


SPECIAL moon cakes at the Edsa Shangri-La come in beautiful drawer-type red boxes.


THE MOON CAKES of Luk Yuen Noodle House come in plastic packages of single and six pieces selling at P40 and P210, respectively.

Sense of hummus

GREETINGS! Always have been interested in Mediterranean cuisine and been wanting to make my own hummus. But I don't know where I could get a jar of tahini. Is there a store that sells such?

GIGI

I, of all people, understand how frustrating it is to source ingredients in the Philippines. Just when you know exactly what to prepare, something pops out of your ingredient list and alas, the whole menu starts crumbling down. Why? An ingredient is missing and where do I find it?

Well, we can be thankful the supermarkets and delis have come out of the Middle Ages and now carry a gamut of wonderful things. This is the Renaissance!

Tahini is a rich paste of ground sesame seeds used in middle eastern cooking and is readily available in Santi's.

KITCHEN RESCUE

Reggie Aspiras

I would just like to seek your advice on what to do with two-year old almond and walnuts (still unopened). I've got a few bags of them that I was planning to use in baking but never got to do and I feel bad just throwing them away.

TS

About your almonds and walnuts, I'm quite surprised that they haven't germinated and become full grown trees! Nuts don't keep well. Toasting nuts may somehow refresh them but two-year-old nuts? My call on this is they're no longer safe, even for lab rats! Throw them away, please!

However, I've seen nut sculptures—nuts stuck together and made into a piece of art then coated with a rubber glaze and varnished. If you're the "craftsy" type, you could venture into this.

Do you have a recipe for flour tortillas? There are recipes that I've been wanting to try out but couldn't because I couldn't find any tortillas for sale in our province.

MARLA

Ah! Tortillas, there's nothing like fresh homemade ones!!! This recipe of mine is quite easy to do and keeps up to six months in the freezer. But then again, why would you want to store them that long? Just make a fresh batch every time you need them.

Tortillas

4 c all-purpose flour
2 tsp baking powder
½ tsp salt
¼ c sunflower, canola or oil
1 ½ cups warm water

In bowl, combine ingredients and ¾ cup of water. Work the mixture with your hands until it comes together to form a ball, adding the rest of the water gradually until the dough comes together. Add a bit of flour and water as needed (dough should not stick to your hands as it comes together). Knead the dough on a floured surface for 5 minutes. Cut into portions. Roll each piece into a ball, place them on a lightly floured surface, and cover with a damp towel or cling film.

Heat a tortilla pan or a griddle. Roll out the dough, one piece at a time to about 1/4 inch thickness. Cook tortilla one at a time, about 30 seconds per side.

Variations: Corn Tortillas—3 c all-purpose flour + 1 c fine cornmeal

Wheat Tortillas—2 c all-purpose flour + 2 c whole wheat flour

Thanks for a very informative column... and the yummy looking recipes. Do you have a recipe for Chicken Caesar Salad? I like the Caesar Salad in CPK and in Italiannis, also in TGIFridays, but I can't figure out how to make salads like those. (And what's that cheese they use... is that parmesan or feta?)

I'm constantly trying to eat healthier, since my family is prone to diabetes and heart-disease. If you have any other healthy-eating recipes (low fat, hi-fiber, vitamin packed dishes...), *pa-share na din*!

CAROL T

Well, the first step to eating healthy is to know whether the type of food you're actually eating is or isn't healthy. Salads may sound so deceivingly healthy but then again, what about the dressing and all the other things that go in it, on it, over it and on top of it? Caesar, the real thing, is not exactly the low fat type of dressing a healthy eater would go for, but then again... it's still a salad. Let your conscience be the judge.

But don't we just all love it, a hearty serving of Classic Ceasar? So to revere one of the most popular salads in the world, here's a little bit of food history and trivia.

It all started in the roaring '20s, on the 4th of July, so history dictates. Caesar's Place, a restaurant in Tijuana, Mexico, was packed with "Hollywood folk who had headed south for the holidays to evade the restriction of Prohibition." At the end of a busy night, the kitchens nearly empty except for a few ingredients—romaine lettuce, cheese, bread, olive oil and some eggs—Italian chef Caesar Cardini whipped up the famous Caesar Salad.

People loved it and from then on traveled to Mexico to sample the creation. The chef went a step further by tossing the salad by the tableside, believing that, by doing a little show, people will never realize it's just a salad. He was right. It made the dish far more special than it actually was and the rest, as the saying goes, is culinary history. Today, the rendition of the salad has gone from classic to almost absurd. The dressing has evolved, from the use of eggs to the absence of it to topping it with grilled poultry, game or seafood, served with parmesan or feta. The options are endless, so use your imagination.

Here are two recipes, the classic and the low fat. If you ask me, you only live once, keep the calories rolling and enjoy the classic ver-

SENSE/ D3

Where to find tahini? What to do with old nuts? How to make tortillas? Help is on the way

WOULD YOU TRUST JUST ANYONE TO REMOVE YOUR SKIN BLEMISHES?

At the Facial Care Centre we understand how important skincare is to the contemporary woman. For over 20 years our well-trained doctors and therapists have been specializing in women's skin renewal and rejuvenation.

It is worrying that some women today will go to any lengths to erase skin blemishes even if it means putting themselves in the hands of unprofessionals, dubious products, or expensive cosmetic surgery.

The Facial Care Centre is the ultimate treat for discerning women who understand the importance of their own skin. Today at our centres, we embrace a philosophy that marries experience with modern technology, which enables us to effectively treat a number of skin blemishes without expensive surgery or unproven therapies.

Now, the Facial Care Centre brings you the newest technology from the USA to remove unsightly age spots, freckles and spider veins. Our IPL Photorejuvenation experts will show you how this new non-invasive treatment will diminish blemishes from your skin without fuss or pain. You'll be happy to know that when the treatment is finished you'll be able to go about your busy schedule without any interruptions. Call a Facial Care Centre near you and get our seasoned professionals to give you a FREE CONSULTATION that will help you understand the secret of how to get picture-perfect skin without the risk of permanent damage.

Facial care centre
Where Beautiful Skin Happen

US court says SC violated due process on Marcos loot

Story on PAGE A6

Filipino UN worker given hero's burial

By Carmela Reyes
PDI Central Luzon Desk
and Irene C. Perez

MALOLOS CITY—He had seen deaths, hunger, poverty and other imprints of war, but he actually believed in world peace, worked and died for it.

Ranillo "Ronnie" Buenaventura, 47, was on a humanitarian mission in Iraq

FILIPINO/ A21

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Malaysia bans text-a-divorce

KUALA LUMPUR—Islamic authorities will prosecute Malaysian men who try to divorce their wives by sending mobile phone text messages or e-mail without going to court, an official said Thursday.

LST TXT
K N 2.
DVORCD
N TYO!
LOBAT N KO

MALAYSIA/ A19

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph   Friday, September 5, 2003 ★★★ 64 pages / 6 sections / vol. 18 / no. 269   P15   website: www.inq7.net

Lina: Plotters identified

Groups outside military reportedly behind destabilization

ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN. President Macapagal leads military and police top brass in saluting the flag shortly after trooping the line in Camp Aguinaldo on Thursday. Flanking her are PNP Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. and Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Narciso Abaya.

EDWIN BACASMAS

By TJ Burgonio
and Gil Cabacungan Jr.

INTERIOR Secretary Jose Lina yesterday said the government had identified the "destabilizing elements of society," but he belittled their capability to rally the people to their cause.

"There will be some mass actions here and there, but based on our assessment, they will not be able to mobilize a large number of people because they don't have the popular cause," Lina said in a briefing after President Macapagal-Arroyo's first command conference as acting defense secretary.

Asked to name the "destabilizing elements," Lina said: "There is a political component; there are some NGOs (nongovernment organizations). So it's a hodgepodge of desperate groups."

He also said there were "remnants" of past coup attempts as well as "recruiters," and reiterated that their capability was "something that is not a basis for us to worry."

"So far, there's no need to file charges against these groups because they have not committed any overt act" of destabilization, Lina said, but added that the Armed Forces and the Philippine National Police were "prepared to cope with any challenge to the democratic institutions of our society."

Ricardo Saludo, deputy spokesperson

LINA/ A18

Civil society closing ranks to defend democracy

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan
and Gil Cabacungan Jr.

CONCERNED forces from civil society, including former President Corazon Aquino, are closing ranks to "defend democracy" amid the renewed talk of destabilization.

Nongovernment organizations and civic, Church and business groups will gather on Saturday at the La Salle Greenhills to denounce threats to Philippine democracy, according to Joel Pagsanghan, national coordinator of the K1230 Movement, one of the groups spearheading the effort.

"We're very concerned about attempts to destabilize the duly constituted government," he said. "This is a gathering to defend democracy."

Pagsanghan said Aquino, who led the 1986 Edsa "People Power" revolt against strongman Ferdinand Marcos, had accepted their invitation to join them.

"She's supporting this activity. She has been asked to give an inspirational message," Pagsanghan said.

He said a manifesto to "protect democracy and preserve our gains since Edsa I" would be issued on the same day.

While he did not name names, Pagsanghan said "the groups behind the coup attempt and destabilization attempts" were offering the public an alternative akin to the Marcos dictatorship.

He said no government official had been invited because they did not want the assembly to appear pro-administration.

"This is not a gathering in favor of any political personality. It's not pro-administration but pro-democracy," he stressed.

Pagsanghan said the other prominent groups involved in the effort were the Kompil and the Makati Business Club.

The K1230 Movement, an umbrella organization of civil society groups, kept

CIVIL/ A18

Ombudsman presses graft case vs Reyes

By Armand N. Nocum
and Martin P. Marfil

THE OFFICE of the Ombudsman should pursue the investigation of the alleged ill-gotten wealth of resigned Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes to avoid giving the public the impression that the lifestyle checks on low-ranking government officials is a "sham," according to Overall Deputy Ombudsman Margarito Gervacio.

"If it turns out that he had amassed wealth beyond his means, then justice should prevail. If not, he should clear his name," Gervacio told the INQUIRER in an interview.

"But to discontinue the probe now due to his resignation or orders from higher authorities may create suspicions that there's a selective investigation or prosecution," he said yesterday.

Gervacio was reacting to the decision of the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission to discontinue the lifestyle check on

OMBUDSMAN/ A18

Alex Carlos: Manipulator or victim?

By Volt Contreras and Armand Nocum

A SAVVY manipulator or an innocent victim?

If one were to believe the claims of Eugenio "Udong" Mahusay and his lawyer, businessman Alex Carlos was the one who produced the documents that showed the existence of the Jose Pidal bank account and who made it appear that they came from Mahusay himself.

But according to Carlos, he was the victim of Mahusay's lies.

In an interview with ABS-CBN's "Insider" the other night, Carlos denied Mahusay's claim that he was Mahusay's handler.

"My life was at peace before you came into my life. That's when all my troubles began," Carlos said, addressing his statement to Mahusay.

He also denied furnishing Sen. Panfilo Lacson pictures and bank documents on the Pidal account.

Carlos admitted accompanying Mahusay to Lito Banayo, Lacson's spokesperson, but denied bringing Mahusay to Vice President Teofisto Guingona.

He said he was only a "small time" businessman who does not have access to the Vice President. He said it was a certain Allan Dy who brought Mahusay to Guingona.

When Mahusay recanted his allegations against First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo during a Senate hearing

ALEX/ A20

Despite mutiny and coup talk, RP political stability rating steady

THE JULY 27 Makati mutiny and fresh destabilization efforts against the Macapagal administration have failed to bring down the Philippines' political stability rating in a survey among 16 selected emerging economies.

The survey by Lehman Brothers, an international firm engaged in investment banking, and Eurasia Group, a firm that analyzes political risk in selected countries, gave the Philippines the same political stability rating as last year.

The Philippines, which scored 60 points out of a maximum stability score of 100, was ranked 9th among the 16 countries. Results of the survey, which sought to measure a country's ability to withstand and avoid generating crises, were published in The Economist in its Aug. 16 issue.

The survey ranked Hungary as the country with the most stable emerging economy, with a political stability rating of 73 points. It was followed closely by Poland, 72 points and Mexico, 69 points.

Just ahead of the Philippines in the rankings were China and Russia. On 10th place was Argentina and on 11th was Turkey.

At the bottom of the heap were Indonesia, which has been affected by terrorism, and Venezuela, which is still

DESPITE/ A21

Senate to reopen probe of $2-M extort case

SEN. Serge Osmeña says the Senate now has "the smoking gun" to nail former Justice Secretary Hernando Perez (at left) in a $2-million extortion case.

JESS YUSON

By Christine O. Avendaño

ARMED with information that one senator says will serve as the "smoking gun" against former Justice Secretary Hernando Perez, the Senate will reopen its investigation of accusations that Perez extorted $2 million from former Manila Rep. Mark Jimenez.

Sen. Serge Osmeña III said yesterday that the smoking gun was the Swiss authorities' request to the Department of Foreign Affairs in April for information on Perez, his wife Rosario, brother-in-law Ramon Arceo and an associate, investment banker Ernest Escaler, for allegedly laundering money in Swiss bank accounts.

"(T)he report (by Swiss Federal Prosecutor Brent) Holtkamp was like manna from heaven. Here finally was the smoking gun," Osmeña said in a privileged speech titled "Nani Perez and Jose Pidal: Birds of the Same Feather."

Osmeña said the DFA did not notify the Senate about the Holtkamp request even when it was aware of the ongoing investigation in Switzerland.

The Senate committee on government corporations and public enterprises has not yet wrapped up its in-

SENATE/ A19

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: The whole country will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms becoming widespread over the western sections of northern and central Luzon.
SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: RAY LEYESA, PDI RESEARCH/09/05/03

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2003
E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Pidal is Iggy, signature shows

PNP experts' findings cited

By Christian V. Esguerra and Christine Avendaño

BUSINESSMAN Ignacio Arroyo Jr. owns the signatures in the controversial Jose Pidal accounts, his lawyer claimed yesterday, citing police document experts.

Lawyer Antonio Zulueta said the experts arrived at this conclusion after comparing his client's signatures with the specimens presented by opposition Sen. Panfilo Lacson in his explosive Senate expose.

The findings "conclusively proved that Jose Pidal is my client, Ignacio Arroyo," Zulueta told reporters as he emerged from the Philippine National Police Crime Laboratory in Camp Crame yesterday.

Lacson meanwhile was reported to be on his way to Australia yesterday to gather more evidence for the next round of his expose against Mike Arroyo.

A Senate source said Lacson's trip has to do with foreign transactions in the bank accounts of Jose Pidal. The Arroyo camp said it was just a fishing expedition against the First Gentleman.

Zulueta read excerpts from the experts' findings to reporters but refused to give copies of the "official report" which appeared to have been signed by Dr. Mely Sorra, chief of the questioned documents section, and Restituto Mosqueda, the chief of the crime laboratory.

'One and the same'

"There's a strong indication that the questioned signature and the standard handwriting specimen signatures Jose Pidal are written by one and the same person," Zulueta read from the report.

Reporters were not allowed to interview Sorra after the lawyer issued the statement clearing his client.

Zulueta said his client would be available on Monday's hearing of the Senate committees investigating the Jose Pidal scandal.

In a press conference, Ignacio Arroyo said he was gratified by the PNP crime laboratory's findings which he said confirmed his ownership of the Jose Pidal accounts.

ZULUETA

Ignacio Arroyo surfaced last Monday to claim the Jose Pidal accounts which Lacson claimed had been allegedly used by his older brother, First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo, to hide millions in laundered money.

Ignacio Arroyo said Lacson's efforts to link the Jose Pidal accounts to his brother had failed.

"This comes as no surprise because fabricated evidence and falsehoods, of which Senator Lacson seems to be a specialist, eventually collapse in the face of expert, objective and thorough investigation," he said.

He said he did not violate any law in opening the two Jose Pidal accounts at the BPI Family Bank and Union Bank.

He said both accounts had been closed by the time the Anti-Money Laundering Law, which bars the use of false names in bank transactions, took effect in August 2001.

To disprove Lacson's allegation that the First Gentleman actually owned the account, Ignacio Arroyo submitted specimens of his "Jose Pidal" signature to the PNP.

Lacson yesterday said he had no wish to contest the new findings of the PNP crime laboratory as he claimed there were many ways of interpreting the "similarities and differences of questioned and standard signatures."

"The Filipino people cannot be deceived. They know who the real Jose Pidal is," Lacson said.

At least two sources confirmed that Lacson was going to Australia to gather more information against Mike Arroyo.

Travel authority

Lacson sought a 10-day travel authority from the Senate for his trip to Australia.

Before leaving, Lacson reportedly met with opposition senators at a dinner on Wednesday night. The senators who attended the dinner were Vicente Sotto, Rodolfo Biazon, Edgardo Angara, Tessie Aquino-Oreta, Luisa Ejercito-Estrada, Sergio Osmeña and John Osmeña.

Minority Leader Vicente Sotto and Sen. Rodolfo Biazon, who attended the dinner, said Lacson showed them some of the initial evidence he had gathered against Mike Arroyo.

"Ignacio Arroyo has a lot of explaining to do," said Sotto.

Biazon said Lacson promised to give them copies of the documents. He said the senators present agreed that they need to study the documents, "so that we could be properly guided and have a rational approach in asking questions in the next hearing."

Mike Arroyo's camp meanwhile said that Lacson had left for abroad "on another fishing expedition to dig up dirt against the First Gentleman."

Lawyer Jesus Santos told a press conference yesterday that while Lacson's people had told the media that he was on his way to Australia, his real destination was actually the United States. *With reports from Michael Lim Ubac and Margaux Ortiz*

Bank execs violating law for leaking info to Ping, says solon

By Carlito Pablo, Michael Lim Ubac and Christine Avendaño

AN ADMINISTRATION congressman yesterday called on the banks that Sen. Panfilo Lacson cited in his expose as being depositories of the alleged dummy accounts of First Gentleman Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo to investigate their officers and employees who leaked bank documents to the opposition senator.

Lakas Rep. Prospero Nograles said the bank officers and employees who provided Lacson with the documents were liable for violations of the Bank Secrecy Law.

"These banking records are confidential and cannot be given to any other parties except those who own the accounts," Nograles said in an interview.

He warned that the leak of the banking documents could undermine confidence in the banking system.

Lacson alleged that three banks—Union Bank, Bank of Philippine Islands and International Exchange Bank—were the depositories of the Jose Pidal accounts and those of Victoria Toh, Thomas Toh and Kelvin Tan.

Photocopies

Lacson presented photocopies of checks and banking statements to prove his claim that Mike Arroyo was Jose Pidal and that the accounts of Victoria Toh, Thomas Toh and Kelvin Tan were dummy accounts belonging to Mike Arroyo.

The Union Bank and BPI have denied having any Jose Pidal accounts and cited the Bank Secrecy Law in refusing to confirm or deny if they had any accounts of Victoria Toh, Thomas Toh and Kelvin Tan.

The International Exchange Bank is neither confirming nor denying the existence of such accounts without a court order as required by the Bank Secrecy Law.

Nograles, a lawyer, said that Lacson's expose based on supposed photocopies of banking documents cannot stand.

"Xeroxed documents as we all know, are not considered acceptable as evidence," Nograles said.

"If an accuser like Lacson is alleging any wrongdoing with respect to a particular bank account, then all he has to do is file a case before the court," Nograles said.

Arroyo's younger brother Ignacio "Iggy" Arroyo has come forward to claim ownership of the Pidal accounts and has expressed willingness to have these opened for scrutiny.

Modified SPA

Yesterday he issued a modified Special Power of Attorney (SPA) in favor of Senate President Franklin Drilon, this time bearing the signatures of Ignacio Arroyo and Jose Pidal.

Through this legal instrument, he said Drilon could withdraw "any and all monies now deposited in any and all current bank accounts under the name of Jose Pidal."

He said the SPA covered all Pidal current accounts in local banks and abroad.

Meanwhile, Sen. Edgardo Angara said it should not be Lacson but the Senate that should move to gain access to the alleged dummy accounts of Mike Arroyo.

He said he has asked the Senate's legal counsel to determine whether the chamber could go to court to compel the banks to open the accounts.

Burden

Sen. Joker Arroyo, the chair of the Senate blue ribbon committee that is leading the investigation, said the burden of providing the evidence was on Lacson as he was the one complaining.

"We are not a policeman or an investigator to look for evidence," the senator said.

He gave Lacson five days, or until Monday, to produce the evidence. He said that until now the investigating committees have not been given a single document or even photocopies of documents.

"This is not a court of law, meaning he who alleges must prove and must provide the evidence," Senator Arroyo told reporters. "We are a court of public opinion, this is a public inquiry."

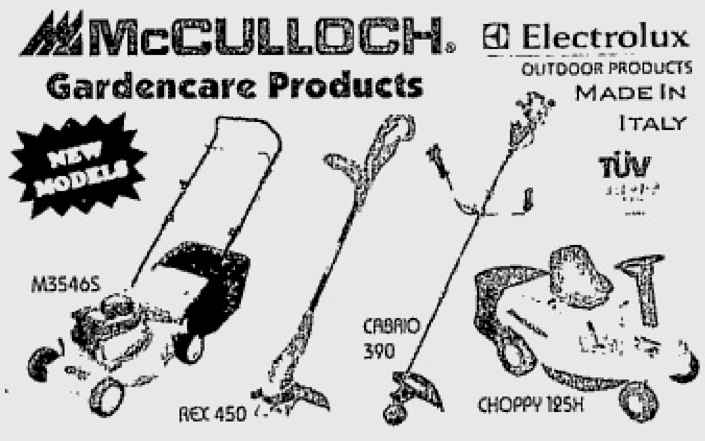
SW MOTORS
3 DAY MEGA SALE!
0917-8388094

CURE BAD BREATH NOW!
Now it's here... America's revolutionary health products, THERABREATH system ™.
The amazing discovery for effective treatment of chronic bad breath, bitter/sour tastes, phlegm in throat, pasty saliva, post nasal drip, awful morning breath.
Bad breath is caused by sulfur producing bacteria on your tongue and throat, not in stomach or sinus. That's why mouthwashes and capsules don't really work.
MONEY BACK GUARANTEE
Call for free delivery w/in Metro Manila
Tel# 890-8380, 895-5532; 897-2466, 895-6775, 0917-7965859

100% Brand New & Recon COPIERS
RICOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin
BRAND NEW RICOH FT 3813 BEST FOR BUSINESS
P 15,000. ONLY
RECONDITIONED POWDER FT3320 FOR OFFICE USE
P 49,900. ONLY
BRAND NEW CANON FC 290 FOR PERSONAL USE
P 20,000. ONLY
BRAND NEW FULL COLOR DIGITAL COPIER
P 17,500. ONLY
PARTS & SUPPLIES AVAILABLE FOR MOST COPIER BRANDS!
COPYTRADE,
Copytrade Bldg 550 MF Jhocson St. Sampaloc, Manila (Beside Nat'l Univ)
Tels. 749-8155 to 56
781-3472 • 749-8216
We Buy / Trade-in Liquid Copiers
Ringbinders / Cutters
Gestetner / Bluprint / Riso / Laminating / Fax Machines

No Job? No Money? Retiring? OFW, Housewife, Student? Underpaid?
Start Your Business na lang! Be Your Own Boss!
Many are wealthy sa business nila. How about you?
From the #1 Bestselling Pinoybanos Guide Books for Filipino Entrepreneurs
Be Inspired, Be Motivated to Start & Manage Your Own Business NOW.
Easy to Read Practical Pinoy Selling w/ PUPLING comic strips in Tagalog Giggle & Laugh your way while learning!
#7-Best Advice For Your Own Business
Available only at National Book Store & Powerbooks
#1-A Smart & Practical Guide For New Entrepreneurs
#2-Be Smart/Start & Manage Your Own Business
Great idea, too!
10%-50% Off at NATIONAL Book Store - AUG 15 to SEPT. 15, 2003 Only!!

POWER TOOLS
VERY CHEAP PRICE!
BENCH GRINDER P1,000.00 ONLY
CUT-OFF MACHINE P3,500.00 ONLY
AIR BLOWER P1,000.00 ONLY
POWER SPRAYER P2,800.00 ONLY
P600.00 ONLY
E. DRILL
A. GRINDER
P1,200.00 ONLY
E. PLANER
CIRCULAR SAW
ALSO AVAILABLE AT CALTEX STATION
APO ST. QUEZON CITY - NEAR ROTONDA
TEL No 731-0011 - 731-0022 - 740-5410
POWERMAN HARDWARE
528 T. ALONSO ST., STA. CRUZ MANILA • 733-3711 • 736-9554



McCULLOCH. Gardencare Products
Electrolux OUTDOOR PRODUCTS
MADE IN ITALY

THE No. 1 NAME IN PETROL GARDEN PRODUCTS
EVAN HARDWARE INC. 883 EVANGELISTA ST., QUIAPO, MANILA Tels. 733-4850, 733-7445, 733-4049
Dealers: MANILA: Powerman Hardware 733-3711 • Workstation - Harrison Plaza 525-2460 • New Kaunlaran 733-2202 • LYS Hardware 251-9126 KALOOKAN: Harrows Industrial 323-2135 QUEZON CITY: Wilcon Builder's Supply 921-3301-94 MANDALUYONG: Han's Infinite Tools - Shangrila Plaza 634-802 MAKATI: Federal Hardware 893-1690 • Workstation - Pasong Tamo Ext. 813-5424 ALABANG: Wilcon Builder's Depot 809-7356 LOS BAÑOS: Maquiling Builder's Depot (049)536-0436 CALAMBA: Maquiling Builder's Depot (049)545-7176 BIÑAN: Workstation - Pavilion Mall 520-8200 CABANATUAN: Hardware Depot (044)464-0652 LEGASPI: Hardware Depot (052)820-0841 CEBU: CITI Hardware (032) 343-9194 MASBATE: Milagros Auto Supply (056)333-2197 BACOLOD: Hardy Marketing (034)433-2472 GENERAL SANTOS: Supreme Hardware Depot (083)302-1606 / (083)228-9040

For Elegance and Comfort Living
FEW UNITS LEFT
VELLAGIO TOWER
READY FOR OCCUPANCY
NO DOWNPAYMENT
For as low as P1.4 M
Rizal Stadium
Quirino ave.
San Andres
PGH
NBI
La Salle
Taft Ave
McDo
St. Benilde
PWU
PCU
L. Guinto
MODEL UNITS AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING
WAJ Realty Dev't, Inc.
Tel: 400-8407 / 525-1787 / 522-0278 / 536-9523
HLURB License to Sell #04889

COPYSTAR OFFICE AUTOMATION
Introducing CLEAR POWDER COPIER w/ Reducer & Enlarger for Only P18,000
RECONDITIONED
Canon MPC 400
RICOH FT 3313 Reducer/Enlarger For only P18,000
RICOH FT 3113 For only P15,000
P20,000
LAMINATOR P6,500 THERMAL BINDER P8,500 RING BINDER P8,000
Other copiers also available: FT 3013, FT 3513, FT 3713, FT 3213 FT 4418, FT 4220, FT 4222
SALES: 899-7101 up to 04 / 899-7045 / 899-7075 to 76 / 899-7023
MAIN OFFICE: COPYSTAR Bldg. 948 J. P. Rizal Ave., near cor. Makati Ave., Makati City • Fax: 895-7802
CEBU OFFICE: 178 Sanslangko St., Cebu City ☎ 255-0504 • 256-3368 to 69
PAMPANGA: McArthur Hi-way, Dolores San. Fdo. ☎ 963-5055 to 56 • Fax: 963-5059 • Digitel: 860-0383

Advertising inspires changes.
PANA 45 Years
Celebrate Advertisers Month
SEPTEMBER 2003

Maids protest new HK levy

HONG KONG—A group of foreign domestic helpers rallied here Thursday against a controversial Hong Kong government levy on employers of foreign maids, mostly Filipinos, set to be introduced next month.

Around 30 members of the Asia Migrants Coordinating Body (AMCB) urged the government not to go ahead with the levy, describing it as a "double whammy" for foreign domestic helpers in Hong Kong.

The government announced last week that local employers wishing to hire, or renew a contract, with a foreign domestic helper will have to pay a levy of HK$400.

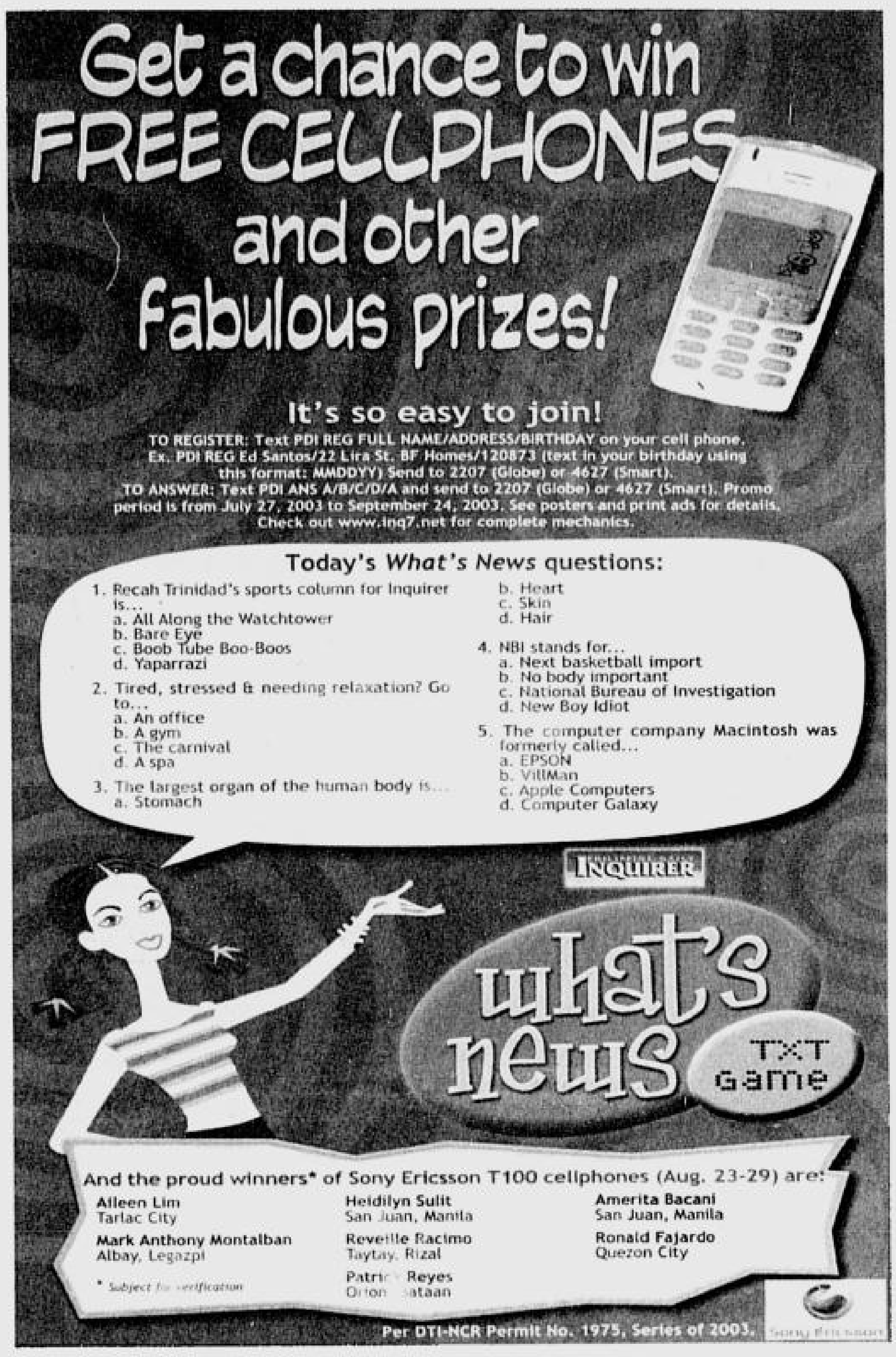
Domestic helpers have complained they will effectively be paying it out of their salaries after the government announced their minimum wages would be cut by HK$400 to HK$3,270 a month from April.

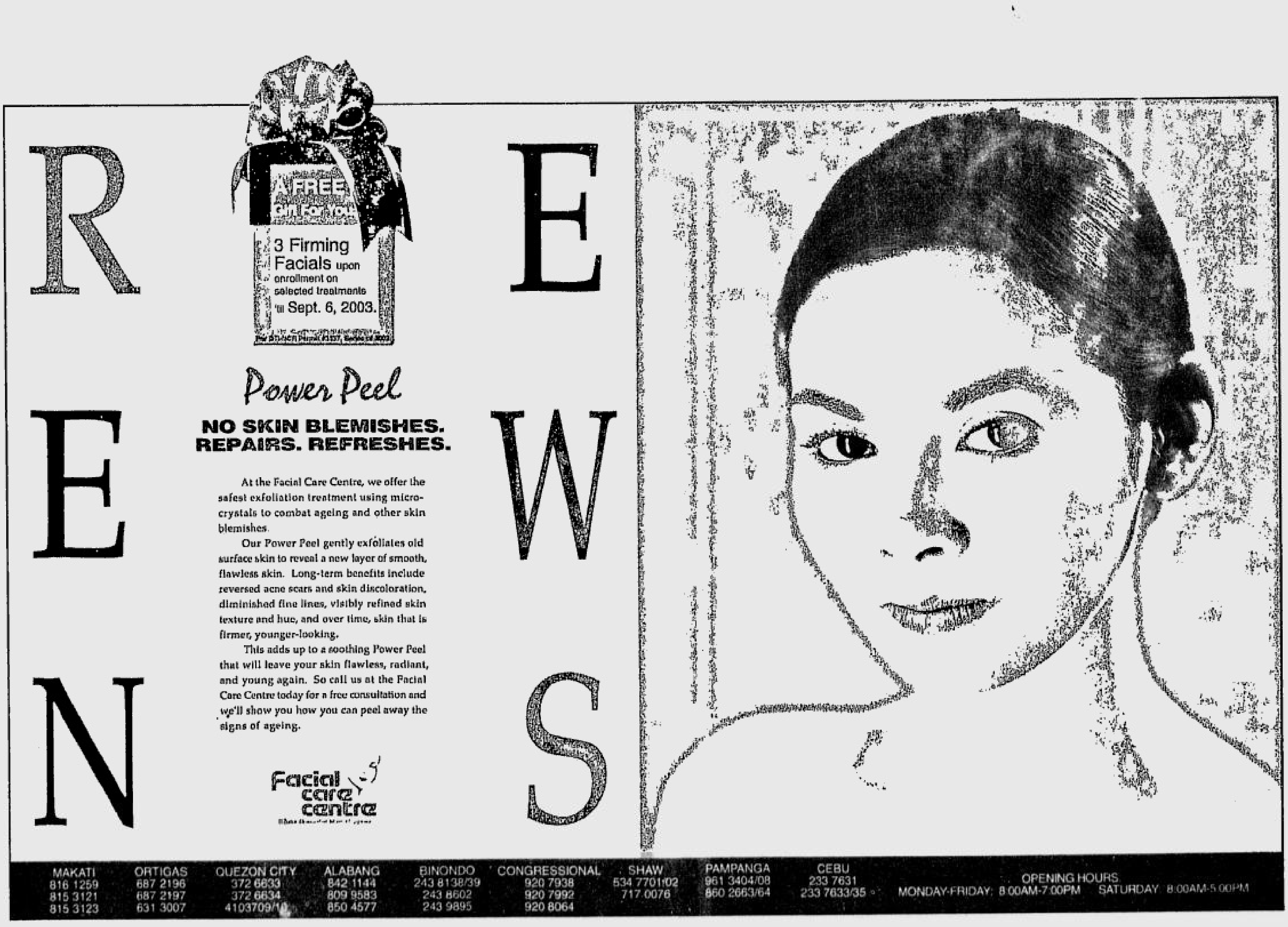
"It is taxation of one of the poorest of the poor. Where is justice in that?" said Connie Bragas-Regalado, a spokesperson for AMCB.

The Philippine government sent top officials to express concerns to the Hong Kong government after the minimum wage cut, but to no avail. *AFP*

IRRESISTIBLY lower PRICED!
ALL ORIGINAL!
MAGIC SING
VIDEOKE MICROPHONE
VIDEOKE ANYTIME, ANYWHERE!
Get one now at any
WESTERN
branch nationwide
P 10,999
P 12,499
Manufactured by:
ENTER-TECH Company Ltd. (Korea)
www.enter-tech.com
The No. 1 MAGIC SING DISTRIBUTOR in the Philippin
in-a-jiffy

Forty Winks
Everything that's good in beds.
NEW ARRIVALS!
CAPRICORN
ABERDEEN
WILLOWBANK
SCARBOROUGH
SOFABED 20% OFF
THE WORLD'S Nº 1
Sealy Posturepedic mattress
THE LARGEST SELLING MATTRESS IN THE U.S.!
SM NORTH EDSA 9276813
SM MEGAMALL 6356812-13
SM BACOOR (046)417972
SM CITY CEBU (32)2321632
SM SOUTHMALL 8001110-11
PIONEER HOUSE BESIDE GREENBELT Legazpi st. cor. Paseo de Roxas 8105647
FIESTA WORLD MALL (043)9810790
SAVER'S MART Mc Arthur HWay, Tarlac City (045)9820512/9824775
EVER GOTESCO COMMONWELTH 8320998-99 loc. 103
STA. LUCIA 6817498 / 6817484
COUNTRY LIFESTYLE Santolan cor. Ortigas Ave. 7240409
WOMAN THE STORE Glorietta 3, Makati City 8100174
MAGALLANES San Gregorio st. cor. SSHway 8541850-52


Get a chance to win FREE CELLPHONES and other fabulous prizes!
It's so easy to join!
TO REGISTER: Text PDI REG FULL NAME/ADDRESS/BIRTHDAY on your cell phone. Ex. PDI REG Ed Santos/22 Lira St. BF Homes/120873 (text in your birthday using this format: MMDDYY) Send to 2207 (Globe) or 4627 (Smart).
TO ANSWER: Text PDI ANS A/B/C/D/A and send to 2207 (Globe) or 4627 (Smart). Promo period is from July 27, 2003 to September 24, 2003. See posters and print ads for details. Check out www.inq7.net for complete mechanics.
Today's *What's News* questions:
1. Recah Trinidad's sports column for Inquirer is...
a. All Along the Watchtower
b. Bare Eye
c. Boob Tube Boo-Boos
d. Yaparrazi
2. Tired, stressed & needing relaxation? Go to...
a. An office
b. A gym
c. The carnival
d. A spa
3. The largest organ of the human body is...
a. Stomach
b. Heart
c. Skin
d. Hair
4. NBI stands for...
a. Next basketball import
b. No body important
c. National Bureau of Investigation
d. New Boy Idiot
5. The computer company Macintosh was formerly called...
a. EPSON
b. VillMan
c. Apple Computers
d. Computer Galaxy
INQUIRER what's news TXT game
And the proud winners* of Sony Ericsson T100 cellphones (Aug. 23-29) are:
Aileen Lim, Tarlac City
Mark Anthony Montalban, Albay, Legazpi
Heidilyn Sulit, San Juan, Manila
Reveille Racimo, Taytay, Rizal
Patrick Reyes, Orion, Bataan
Amerita Bacani, San Juan, Manila
Ronald Fajardo, Quezon City
* Subject for verification
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1975, Series of 2003.
Sony Ericsson


R E N E W S
A FREE Gift For You
3 Firming Facials upon enrollment on selected treatments 'til Sept. 6, 2003.
Power Peel
NO SKIN BLEMISHES. REPAIRS. REFRESHES.
At the Facial Care Centre, we offer the safest exfoliation treatment using microcrystals to combat ageing and other skin blemishes.
Our Power Peel gently exfoliates old surface skin to reveal a new layer of smooth, flawless skin. Long-term benefits include reversed acne scars and skin discoloration, diminished fine lines, visibly refined skin texture and hue, and over time, skin that is firmer, younger-looking.
This adds up to a soothing Power Peel that will leave your skin flawless, radiant, and young again. So call us at the Facial Care Centre today for a free consultation and we'll show you how you can peel away the signs of ageing.
Facial care centre
MAKATI 816 1259 / 815 3121 / 815 3123
ORTIGAS 687 2196 / 687 2197 / 631 3007
QUEZON CITY 372 6633 / 372 6634 / 4103709/10
ALABANG 842 1144 / 809 9583 / 850 4577
BINONDO 243 8138/39 / 243 8602 / 243 9895
CONGRESSIONAL 920 7938 / 920 7992 / 920 8064
SHAW 534 7701/02 / 717 0076
PAMPANGA 961 3404/08 / 860 2663/64
CEBU 233 7631 / 233 7633/35
OPENING HOURS MONDAY-FRIDAY: 8:00AM-7:00PM SATURDAY: 8:00AM-5:00PM

Al-Ghozi using 2 fake RP passports

By Martin P. Marfil

FUGITIVE Indonesian bomber Fathur Rohman al-Ghozi used two fake Philippine passports to enter and leave the country for at least a year before his capture in 2002.

Immigration chief Andrea Domingo yesterday said she had placed the fraudulently acquired travel documents on a watchlist at the country's airports and seaports.

"Al-Ghozi or any of his cohorts will thus be prevented from using (these passports)," Domingo said in a statement.

She disclosed that the convicted Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) operative had used two aliases to obtain the passports in Zamboanga City in January and May 2001.

One passport, issued to a Sammy Sali Jamil, bore the number HH150275; the second one, issued to a Randy Adam Alih, had the number GG672613.

Both passports have been revoked, according to the Department of Foreign Affairs.

When he and two Abu Sayyaf guerrillas bolted the police intelligence compound in Camp Crame on July 14, Al-Ghozi was serving a prison term of 10 to 12 years for illegally acquiring more than a ton of explosives.

He is accused of masterminding the Rizal Day (Dec. 30) 2000 blast that killed 22 people, and is suspected of involvement in plots to attack the United States and other Western embassies in Singapore.

JI is a network of militants seeking an Islamic state across Southeast Asia.

An immigration official who declined to be identified told Reuters there had been no attempts to use the passports since the July escape. "But it has been confirmed that Al-Ghozi managed to use them before he was captured," the official said.

Al-Ghozi was arrested by Philippine police in January 2002 and jailed later that year.

Despite a huge manhunt, he has yet to be recaptured.

Military officials believe Al-Ghozi is hiding in areas of Mindanao that are held by the Moro Islamic Liberation Front. The separatist group has denied it is harboring him. *With reports from Reuters and Agence France-Presse*

CORRECTIONS

LANDBANK new accounts clerk Cristina T. Sanvictores was not charged in court for violation of the Anti-Money Laundering Act in connection with the Landbank tax scam, contrary to what was reported in the INQUIRER last Aug. 30.

She was not implicated by whistleblower Acsa Ramirez in the scam.

Sanvictores was the new accounts clerk, not a bank teller as erroneously reported.

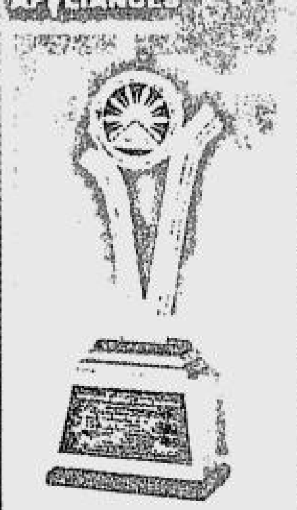
***

The caption of the photo that appeared on Page A15 of yesterday's issue mistakenly identified Ed Pamintuan as mayor of Angeles City. Pamintuan is the chief of the National Housing Authority, while the mayor of Angeles is Carmelo S. Lazatin.

OFFICE CLUB.com THE NEW WAY TO OFFICE www.officeclub.com.ph
COMPLETE SCHOOL / OFFICE SUPPLIES, OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT
Call for Free 48 pages Catalog
CLERICAL CHAIR P 1,585.00
CLASSIC MANAGER P 2,985.00
FLYING PORTABLE TYPEWRITER P 1,875.00
CASIO from P 295.00 up
STABILO HIGHLIGHTER P 21.00
VERBATIM CD-R P 25.00
PILOT BOND P 82.00
ARCHFILE BINDER P 95.00 up
CASH DRAWER w/ bell P 2,100.00
PLASTIC SEAL P 595.00
MOBILE CABINET P 2,195.00
DIGITAL BANTAM SAFE P 3,150.00
SECURITY CAMERA P 5,495.00
OHP PROJECTOR P 4,895.00
WATER DISPENSER P 4,995.00
MANILA
344 Nueva St. Binondo Manila
Tel No 244-721 up to 15
Fax No 243-1875
E-Mail Add sales@officeclub.com.ph
MAKATI
814 A.Arnaiz Ave. Makati City
Tel No 757 8378 up to 81
Fax No 757 8316
E-Mail Add oc_makati@yahoo.com
SAN JUAN
55 Annapolis St. Greenhills
San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel No 724-7242 • 724-7085

"The professionalism of ASTRA is felt in their dealings and fulfilled commitments. Their collaterals express these values as well. Magic Sing units and Song Chips from the ASTRA Group is an informed choice and sound business decision".

Beth Lim
AMBASSADOR APPLIANCES



THE ASTRA GROUP, INC.
Winner of
THE 19th ANNUAL
CONSUMER CHOICE AWARDS
FOR CONSUMER PRODUCTS

Ambassador Appliances
A Proud Dealer Of
ASTRA MAGIC SING
A CONVERGENCE OF SERVICE & QUALITY
THE ORIGINAL!
MAGIC SING
VIDEOKE MICROPHONE
From
THE ASTRA GROUP, INC.
OFFICIAL PHILIPPINE DISTRIBUTOR
par excellence

With FREE Leatherette Jacket
FREE Mic Stand
Additional song chips available.

WITH 1 YEAR WARRANTY
MAJOR CREDIT CARDS HONORED
VISA
GUARANTEED ORIGINAL
GUARANTEED BRAND-NEW
Your assurance of genuine items
CUSTOMER SERVICE IS OUR NO. 1 PRODUCT
Ambassador Appliances branches: MAKATI Upper Level, Goldcrest Bldg. (Near Glorietta 2), Makati Tels. 8930667 to 68 • MANDALUYONG Level 2 Shangri-La Plaza, Edsa Mandaluyong Tels. 6335224 / 6339592 • MANILA 421 Dasmariñas St., Binondo Mla. Tels. 2413867 / 2413875 • QUEZON CITY Upper Ground Floor, New Farmers Plaza, Araneta Center, Cubao QC Tels. 9111665 / 9111384 SAN JUAN 2/F Narra Lane, Virra Mall, Greenhills San Juan Tel 7210905 Telefax: 7214932
THE ASTRA GROUP, INC. G/F, Richbelt Tower Condominium, 17 Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan, MM • Tels. 722-4056, 722-8052, 722-6786 or 705-1321

The Best of Asia for as low as ₱8,509*

HONG KONG AS LOW AS US$ 154
SINGAPORE AS LOW AS US$ 224
BANGKOK AS LOW AS US$ 254
SHANGHAI AS LOW AS US$ 347
HO CHI MINH AS LOW AS US$ 300
JAKARTA AS LOW AS US$ 380

Philippine Airlines
Swingaround
SUPER SAVER

For as low as PHP 8,509* (inclusive of airfare and land arrangements), the magnificent culture of China, the enchantment of Thailand, the proud heritage of Vietnam, the rich diversity of Indonesia, the breathtaking sights and sounds of Hong Kong and Singapore are just a stone's throw away! There is no better time to explore and rediscover this side of the world because Philippine Airlines is bringing Asia closer to you through the **PAL Swingaround Super Saver tour packages.**

Hurry! Call PAL Reservations at 855-8888 or your travel agent. Limited offer only.

Philippine Airlines
It's about experience
www.philippineairlines.com

* Subject to change without prior notice depending on foreign exchange rate adjustments.
Earn Mabuhay Miles when you purchase any of the tour packages. Bangkok - 1,368 miles; Ho Chi Minh - 1,002 miles; Hong Kong - 712 miles; Jakarta - 1,732 miles; Shanghai - 1,152 miles; Singapore - 1,476 miles

WRONG CLASSIFICATION

Ampalaya row a safety issue–DOH

By Blanche S. Rivera

"IT'S really a consumer safety issue," Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit yesterday said of the ampalaya controversy.

But he blamed the past administration of the Bureau of Food and Drugs for the wrong classification of the plant as a "scientifically validated" herbal medicine. The Department of Health has reclassified it as "folklorically validated."

Dayrit said he did not know "how they came up with that list," referring to the first catalogue, which is under review by the present BFAD.

The reclassification came in the heels of diabetologists' complaints, Dayrit said in a press briefing. Also, he said the BFAD was alarmed by the marketing of ampalaya tea and capsules as treatment for diabetes, and decided that the public had to be alerted.

Yolanda Oliveros, Dayrit's head executive assistant, said "political dynamics" were involved in the BFAD's earlier listing. She refused to elaborate.

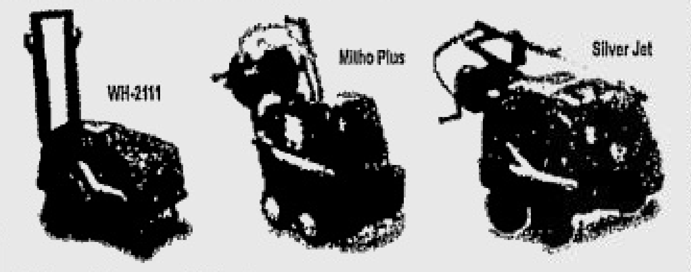
Some 2.8 million Filipinos, or four out of 100, are diabetic, according to the 1997 study by the Food and Nutrition Research Institute study in 1997, the latest one available.

Dayrit stressed that "scientifically validated herbal medicines" meant those that had undergone a rigorous four-phase clinical testing. Studies on the ampalaya are only in the third phase, that is the formal therapeutic trials, in which one group of volunteers is given anti-diabetic medicines and another group is given ampalaya concoctions.

The Philippine Council for Health Research and Development is evaluating nine other herbal plants in the earlier BFAD list. So far, only *lagundi, sambong, akapulko* and *yerba buena* have been officially declared scientifically validated herbal supplements.

Tsaang gubat, ulasimang bato, garlic, guava and *niyug-niyugan* are also still in the initial phases of testing.

"All we're saying," Dayrit said, "is ... don't substitute your medication with ampalaya food supplements."


INDUSTRIAL FACTORIES ♦ JANITORIAL SERVICES ♦ POULTRIES ♦ SHIPYARDS ♦ TAXI FLEETS

We Offer The World's Most Trusted High Pressure Washers & Vacuum Cleaners!

FROM THE NO. 1 IN HIGH PRESSURE WASHERS

Major Credit Cards Accepted.
Deferred Payments Up To 24 Mos.

With AFTER SALES SERVICE

Exclusively Distributed By:
CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL INCORPORATED

MAIN OFFICE:1851 M.Orosa St., Malate, Manila
Tel. Nos.: 5244328 • 5240529 • 5245290
QUEZON CITY BRANCHES: 646 Quezon Ave. Tel. 7490581 • 7493709
162 Del Monte Ave. Nr. Cor. Roosevelt Ave. Tel. 4101086 • 3724429

CAR WASHER ♦ POULTRIES ♦ SHIPYARDS ♦ RESTAURANT ♦ GAS STATIONS ♦ HOTELS ♦ JANITORIAL SERVICES ♦ SHIPYARDS ♦ CONFECTIONERIES ♦ HOTELS ♦ POULTRIES ♦ SHIPYARDS ♦ RESTAURANT ♦ GAS STATIONS ♦ HOTELS

enjoy, unwind and relax at

TAGAYTAY EXECUTIVE VILLAGE

A minute drive to ROTUNDA / at the back of McDONALDS and OLIVAREZ PLAZA

Own a lot for as low as

P10,920 / mo.

*NO DOWN PAYMENT SCHEME also available
HLURB License to Sell No.: Phase 1:05609-R4-02-09 / Phase 2: 07268-R4A-03-04

CITYLAND
812-2222 • 243-6565 • 818-8888 • 241-1894 • (0919) 310-8553
www.cityland.net • investment@cityland.net

YOUR LAST CHANCE!

Europe's finest for less

Europoint®

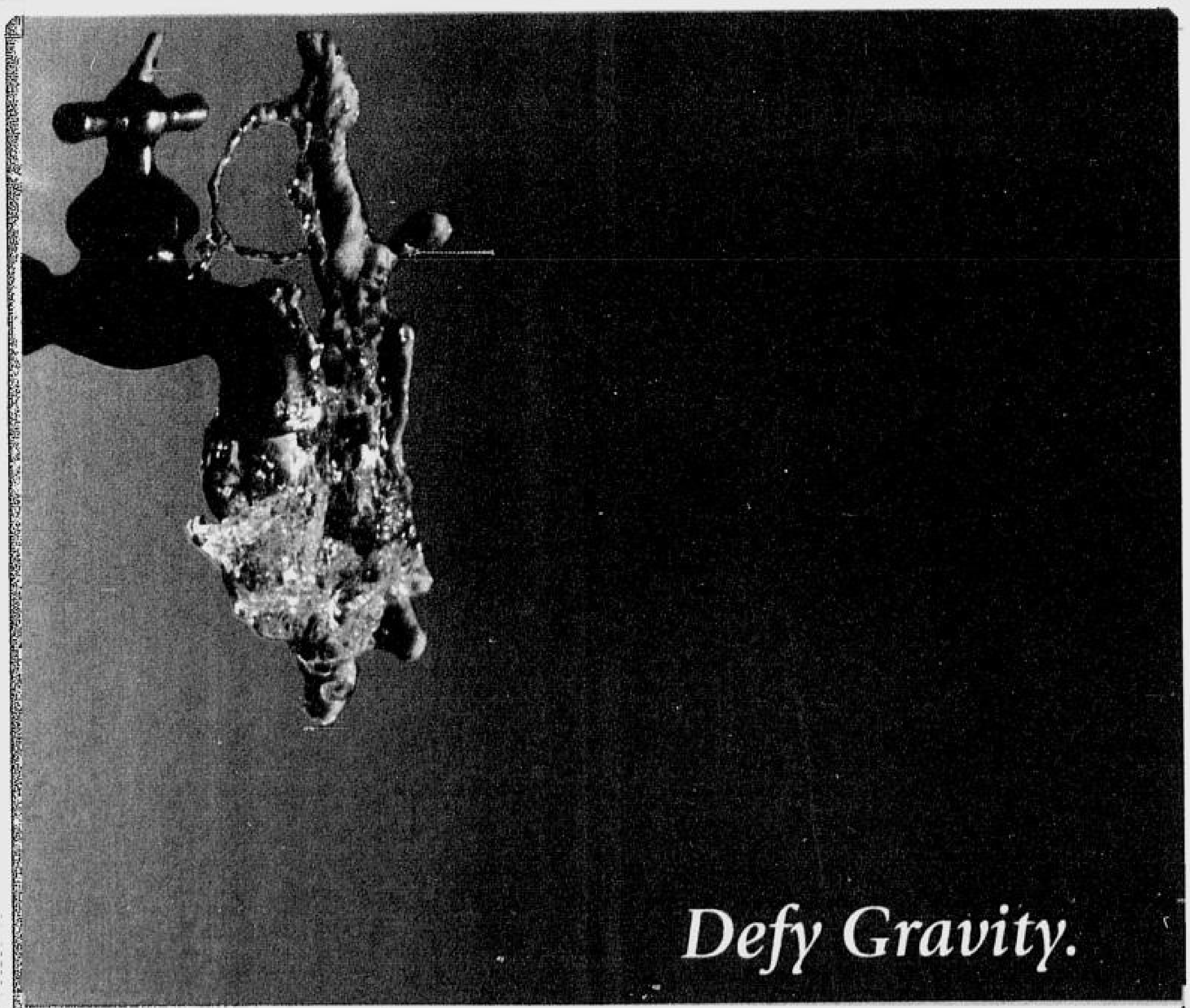
MEGA MIDNIGHT SALE

TAKE ADVANTAGE.
Get special discounts on special German furniture.
From SEPTEMBER 1 to 15 9AM 'TIL 12MN

UP TO 70% OFF
ON SELECTED ITEMS

Eastwood
Shell

PLEASE visit us at CASA FURNISHING, INC.
TEL.: (632) 634-7190 • FAX: (632) 634-7189


Defy Gravity.

SUN FOREX PLUS gives you *four great ways* to ensure your and your family's future with the *STRENGTH of the DOLLAR.* It provides:

- ✔ lifetime protection in dollars to cushion you and your family from life's unexpected blows
- ✔ guaranteed dollar cash benefits over your lifetime
- ✔ dividends which you can withdraw or leave to accumulate and
- ✔ flexibility to access funds for emergencies

Don't let your hard-earned savings go down the drain...

Defy gravity with SUN FOREX PLUS!

Sun Forex Plus is an insurance product offered by Sun Life of Canada (Philippines), Inc., a member of the Sun Life Financial group of companies.

Defy gravity TODAY. To know more about this exciting new product, call 849-9888 or e-mail PHIL_SunDirect@sunlife.com
Visit: www.sunlife.com.ph

Sun Life Financial

In the Philippines, Sun Life Financial is represented by Sun Life of Canada (Philippines), Inc. offering life insurance products; Sun Life Asset Management Company, Inc., manager and distributor of Sun Life Prosperity Funds; and the Sun Life Financial Plans, Inc., offering pension and education plans.

EXPRESS ADVICE

STOP
LOOK
LISTEN

When paying your bills Check-Free, make sure you select the correct merchant.

When paying bills via Check-Free Payments, avoid distractions. Have the bill on hand for easy reference.

When paying over Express Online or the Express Teller ATM, a list of your enrolled merchants will appear on the screen. Ensure that you choose the correct button.

On Express Phone, listen carefully to the recording as it enumerates your merchants, and remember to press the appropriate button.

CHECK POINT

When paying via EPS, make sure the cashier keyed in the correct amount.

Before confirming your EPS purchase and keying in your ATM PIN, make sure that the cashier keyed in the correct amount. Maintain confidentiality while entering your PIN.

Before you go, check your receipt for any errors and don't forget to retrieve your card.

09174677626

Always check the cellphone number you are reloading via Express Prepaid.

Before reloading credits to someone else's cellphone, make sure that the number you are crediting to is still active.

While using the Express Prepaid facility over the Express Teller ATM, make sure that you have entered the correct cellphone number and that it is the one you intend to reload. After the transaction, check if a text confirmation was received by the cellphone number.

For more information, **call 89-100** or log on to **www.bpiexpressonline.com**

Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Deposits insured up to ₱100,000.

BPI EXPRESS TELLER
The fully-loaded
Express Banking card.

express teller
International
0123 4567 89

ENFORCING WORLDWIDE INJUNCTION

US court says SC violated due process on Marcos loot

By Dona Pazzibugan

THE HAWAII district court of the United States has ruled against the transfer to the Philippine government of the $683 million Marcos deposits in Swiss banks, saying the Philippine Supreme Court's verdict forfeiting what it declared as ill-gotten had violated "any international sense of due process."

The Presidential Commission on Good Government just shrugged off the Sept. 2 decision of Judge Manuel Real, saying it had no effect on the earlier decision of Swiss authorities to transfer the Marcos ill-gotten wealth to the Philippine government.

"That's crazy," said Commissioner Ruben Carranza when told of Real's ruling.

Real's ruling

A copy of Real's two-page order was furnished the INQUIRER yesterday by the Marcos camp.

Carranza said he would verify if such a ruling came out.

Real in 1995 awarded about $2 billion to about 10,000 human rights victims of martial law.

But the PCGG does not recognize that ruling, saying it is outside the jurisdiction of the US district court of Hawaii.

In his latest order, Real barred Swiss banks and "all persons and banking institutions" from transferring the assets to the Philippine government.

It said the Philippine Supreme Court violated due process when it forfeited the $683 million in favor of the government in its decision last July 15.

"A review of the opinion by the Philippine Supreme Court indicates there has been no evidence presented to support of such a determination as required by the lower court judgment (sic)," read the order.

Due process

"It is clear that such an adjudication violates any elementary international sense of due process," it added.

"It is hereby ordered that any such transfer . . . shall be considered contempt of the Court's earlier order (for injunction)," it said.

Real threatened to cite for obstruction of justice those who would go against his order, citing the case of alleged gun-runner Adnan Khashoggi who was extradited and indicted in 1990 to New York for obstruction of justice.

Carranza reiterated that Real's orders have no bearing in the Philippines.

"The Supreme Court has already ruled. So US courts have to respect the court of a sovereign state.

"He (Real) can issue any kind of order but they can never be enforced anywhere else," Carranza said.

Swiss authorities on Aug. 5 transferred the $683 million to the Philippine government following the Supreme Court decision last July 15.

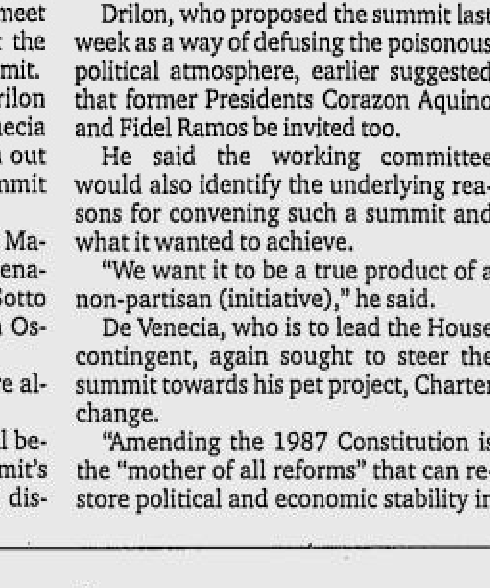
Decision

The PCGG is still waiting for the decision to become final.

The $683 million is in an escrow account in the Philippine National Bank.

Congress is hammering out a law to allocate about $200 million of the Marcos loot to the martial law victims.

AVAILABLE IN OPTIONAL RECHARGEABLE BATTERY PACK.
PulmoMist®
Handheld Ultrasonic Nebulizer
FOR BEST RELIEF OF ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, EMPHYSEMA & COPD
AUTOMATIC SHUT-OFF EVERY 10 MINS. WHILE IN USE. 3 YRS. WARRANTY
THE CHEAPEST AC/DC BATTERY OPERATED NEBULIZER.



For Home & Car Use
Manufactured for and Exclusively Distributed by
medical center trading corp.
Pioneer St. cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
Tels.: 631-1715; 631-9355, 637-9504 Fax (632) 631-7869
e-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph

Pasig	Manila	Cebu	Davao	Iloilo	Lipa	Pampanga
631-1715 loc 321	(02) 711-8374	(032) 254-2367	(082) 222-4404	(033) 320-1413	(043) 757-2051	(045) 961-7892

Available in mercury drug Nationwide

Congress leaders to draft agenda for political summit

By Michael Ubac and Carlito Pablo

CONGRESSIONAL leaders are to meet today at the Manila Hotel to draft the agenda of the proposed political summit.

Senate President Franklin Drilon said he and Speaker Jose de Venecia had agreed to sit down and thresh out the issues to be discussed at the summit next week.

Drilon said he has invited Senate Majority Leader Loren Legarda and Senators Francis Pangilinan, Vicente Sotto III, Aquilino Pimentel Jr. and John Osmeña to join him.

Osmeña said Palace officials were also expected to attend the meeting.

Those attending the meeting will become the members of the summit's working committee. They will be discussing such details as the agenda, date and the parties to be invited.

Drilon, who proposed the summit last week as a way of defusing the poisonous political atmosphere, earlier suggested that former Presidents Corazon Aquino and Fidel Ramos be invited too.

He said the working committee would also identify the underlying reasons for convening such a summit and what it wanted to achieve.

"We want it to be a true product of a non-partisan (initiative)," he said.

De Venecia, who is to lead the House contingent, again sought to steer the summit towards his pet project, Charter change.

"Amending the 1987 Constitution is the "mother of all reforms" that can restore political and economic stability in the country, he said.

"We need real decisive reforms, there should be a revolutionary spirit in this conference," he said.

He said that for the summit to succeed, "it should cease to be a mere media event and must consider unveiling genuine structural reforms, including Charter reform."

Osmeña said the summit would serve as a "tranquilizer" to calm the unrest in the political arena.

"The people are sleepless . . . fearing (the worst)," he said.

Osmeña supported De Venecia's position that Charter change be discussed at the summit.

"I would push for Charter change because (the country's problems) can't be solved by a single person," he said, while also calling for the establishment of a federal system.

Measures calling for constitutional reform are pending at the Senate, but senators are not too keen about Charter change.

The shift to a parliamentary system would mean the abolition of the House and Senate and possibly no elections in 2004.

Apparently to head this off, Sen. Edgardo Angara said the summit should bind political parties to support the holding of elections next year.

"The assurance that elections will push through is the most important (issue). If all political leaders will agree to do everything to prevent anyone from disrupting or stopping the elections, it would be a big assurance to the country," he said.

Paandar ng Matibay!
KIA KC2700
Back to Back
Paandar+Papremyo
Para sa Inyo!
KC2700 Panoramic
SRP P510,000

Now! The true All-purpose Utility & Versatility vehicle is easier to own
- at may chance ka pang manalo ng mga papremyo!

Paandar Offer!
As low as ₱89,000* d/p
As low as ₱5,835* Monthly, OR
0% Interest, 12 months term.
50% d/p

LOW DOWNPAYMENT

	TERM					
20% DP	12	18	24	36	48	60
89,000	36,975	25,378	20,468	14,642	11,814	10,120

LOW MONTHLY

	TERM					
50% DP	12	18	24	36	48	60
255,000	21,250	14,631	11,463	8,200	6,617	5,835

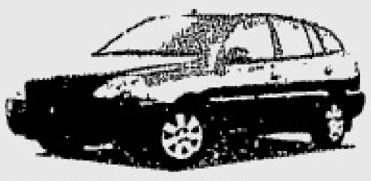
Paandarin at iuwi 'nyo ang KC2700, the only true All-around Utility and Versatility Vehicle with varied purpose-built bodies to suit your business needs - and proven 2.7 diesel performance that's Euro1 and Clean-Air Act compliant-backed by the KIA 3 yrs/110,000 kms. warranty (on chassis - cab unit)**

Talagang Natira ang Matibay! Bagay na bagay, pang hanapbuhay!

KIA
The Car that Cares.

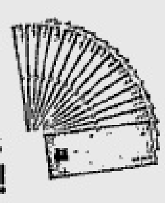
PLUS
Umuulan ng Papremyo!
Every KC2700 buyer also receives a raffle coupon and a chance to win these fabulous prizes!

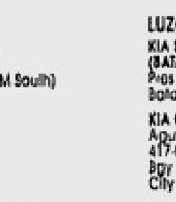
GRAND PRIZE
Winner's choice of:


Pregio RS Enterprise Van
12-seater people mover
OR
RIO 1.5 Hatchback A/T
Practical, Sporty flair!

2nd Prize
2 Winners of Boracay Family Trip for 4 with P10,000 baon

3rd Prize
20 winners of NOKIA 3530 mobile fones!


4th Prize
15 winners of SM Gift Certificates worth P5,000 each!


Consolation Prizes
50 Winners of KIA Gift Packs worth P1,000 each!

*for KC2700 Panoramic model w/o aircon

KC2700 Promo Mechanics
1. This raffle promo is open to all buyers of the KIA KC2700 (all variants) nationwide as follows:
   a. Financing buyers who have applied until September 19, 2003, got approved and make a downpayment until September 25, 2003 will be issued a raffle coupon.
   b. Cash buyers who made their full payment until the end of the promo period will be issued a raffle coupon.
2. Financing buyers may avail of the 20% to 50% downpayment from 12 to 60 months term; and 50% downpayment with 0% interest for 12 mos. term.
3. All financing applications are subject to bank approval.
4. The buyer should fill up all the entries on the raffle coupon and drop it at the dropbox located at the KIA dealership where he bought his KC2700 vehicle. Raffle coupons that were not completely filled up will be disqualified from the raffle.
5. Deadline of submission of entries is until the end of business hours of September 25, 2003.
6. The raffle draw will be held at KIA Motors, Phils., Km. 16 West Service Rd., Bicutan, Paranaque City on September 30, 2003.
7. The raffle prizes are as follows:
   Grand Prize - A choice of a Pregio RS van or a Rio HB(A/T)
   Second Prize - 2 Boracay Family Trips - 3 days/2nights accomodation for a family of 4, inclusive of airfares and baon of P10,000.00 (validity is 6 months from date of issue)
   Third Prize - 20 units of Nokia 3530 cellone kit (simpack with P100.00 load)
   Fourth Prize - 15 SM gift certificates worth P5,000.00 each (with 1 year validity)
   Consolation Prize - KIA premium items worth P1,000.00 each
8. Appropriate taxes will be borne by the grand and second prize winners. Registration requirements, insurance and other related documents shall be for the account of the grand prize winner. Second Prize is not transferrable but may be converted to cash.
9. All winners will be notified by registered mail and must present the original invoice of the vehicle purchased, one(1) valid ID and their winning coupon when claiming their prizes.
10. A customer can only win once; if a name is drawn more than once he/she gets the prize of higher value.
11. The name on the raffle coupon will be declared the winner.
12. Where to claim the prizes:
   a. Metro Manila winners may claim their prizes at Communicon, Inc., 1841 Buenconsejo St. Guadalupe Nuevo, Makati City and look for Ms. Lei Mariano.
   b. Provincial winners will be assisted by the KIA dealership where they purchased their KIA KC2700. Communicon will send the 3rd prizes up to the consolation prizes directly to the winner. Winners of the grand and second prizes will have to claim their prizes at Communicon, Inc.
13. Winners may claim their prizes up to 60 days from the date of notification. Unclaimed prizes will be forfeited in favor of KMP with the concurence of DTI.
14. All employees of KIA Motors, Phils. and its affiliate companies, suppliers, ad agency and their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified in this promo.
15. This promo is available at all KIA dealers nationwide.
16. The promo period is from June 19, 2003 up to September 19, 2003.

**2 yrs / 50,000 kms. warranty on rear body Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1679, Series of 2003

Paandarin ang KC2700 at these authorized dealers:

METRO MANILA
KIA PASAY (KIA MOTOR SALES CORP.)
2316 Aurora Blvd., Pasay City
Tels. 852-1652 • 551-1801
KIA BALINTAWAK (SIGNET BALINTAWAK)
1240 EDSA, Balintawak, Q. C., Tels. 361-0544 • 330-8019 • 330-6670
Makati Showroom: 2241 La Fuerza Plaza, Pasong Tamo St. Tels. 817-8406/16/17/21
KIA COMMONWEALTH (PRINCE MOTOR CORP.)
43 Commonwealth Avenue, Q. C.
Tels. 951-2201 to 16 • 453-9318 to 20
KIA QUIRINO AVE. (VELCOR AUTO HAUS, INC.)
1170-1180 Pres. Quirino Ave. Ext. Paco, Manila
Tels. 563-2282 to 86
*KIA MANDALUYONG (SIGNET MANDALUYONG)
79 EDSA Mandaluyong, M. M. Tels. 531-4631 to 33 • 531-4424 • 531-1949 Almanza Branch: (In front of SM South)
Tels. 801-7656 • 806-2230 • 801-7668 • 802-1024
KIA MARIKINA (DELTA MOTOR SALES CORP.)
332 Sumulong Highway Brgy. San Isidro, Cainta, Rizal Tel. 682-8580 - 81
KIA NEW MANILA (WHEELS, INC.)
222 E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Q. C. (near St. Luke's Hospital)
Tels. 721-8456 • 721-8465 • 721-8448 • 4113406. Quezon Ave. Branch: 602 Quezon Ave., Q. C. Tels. 712-2923 • 712-2926 • 743-6707

LUZON
KIA BATANGAS-LAGUNA
(BATANGAS-LAGUNA AUTOCENTER, INC.)
Pres. Laurel Highway Crossing Sto. Tomas Batangas Tels. (043) 778-4214 to 17
KIA CAVITE (KIA MOTORS CAVITE)
Aguinaldo Highway Bacoor, Cavite Cel No. (046) 417-0795 KIA Biñan: Araza Bldg. 2 National Highway, Brgy. Canlalay, Biñan, Laguna (Beside Golden City Subd.) Tels. (02) 520-8241 • (049) 411-0139
KIA DAGUPAN (METRO-DAGUPAN AUTOCENTER, INC.)
McArthur Highway, San Miguel, Calasiao, Pangasinan
Tels. (075) 617-2249 • (075) 617-5048 • (075) 522-8575
KIA LA UNION (AMIANAN AUTOCENTER, INC.)
Quezon Avenue, Madayegdeg
City of San Fernando, La Union 2500
Tel. (072) 700-8888
KIA PAMPANGA (TRADERS AUTOCENTER, INC.)
Gapan Olongapo Road, San Fernando, Pampanga Tels. (045) 961-1485 • (045) 961-3926 • 961-1486 Cell No. (0912) 330-3231 Dau Branch: Max Building, Dau Exit, Mabalacat, Pampanga
Tel. (045) 892-3654

VISAYAS & MINDANAO
KIA CEBU (GATEWAY MOTORS CORP.)
417 A. Cortes Ave., Mandaue City Tels. (032) 344-3815 • (032) 344-3665 • (032) 346-7289
KIA BACOLOD (877 MOTOR CORP.)
D.C. Cruz Building, Magsaysay St., Singcang Bacolod City
KIA CAGAYAN DE ORO (STERLING MOTOR CORP.)
Cugman, Cagayan de Oro City
Tels. (088)855-5500, (088)855-6100, (0882)733207
KIA DAVAO (RS AUTOSPHERE CORP.)
Km. 7 J. P. Laurel Ave., Lanang, Davao City
Tels. (082) 234-0057 to 68
KIA DIPOLOG
(WESTERN MINDANAO AUTOMOTIVE CORP.)
(also known as CHEVY CENTER) National Highway, Sta. Isabel, Dipolog City Tels. (065)212-5897
KIA ILOILO (KIA MOTORS Metro Iloilo)
Brgy. Tagbac (beside Metropolis) Jaro, Iloilo City
Tels. (033)329-2888 • (033) 329-2222 • (033) 329-4630

Public school teachers P24B in debt, says DepEd report

By Carlito Pablo

LIKE the debt-mired government, public school teachers are also in deep arrears.

Teachers and employees of the Department of Education owe state and private lenders a staggering P23.9 billion, according to a DepEd report submitted to the House appropriations committee.

Rep. Rolando Andaya Jr. (Lakas, Camarines Sur), chair of the appropriations committee, said this was discovered by the DepEd in the course of its review of the automatic payroll deduction scheme being used in paying teachers' loans.

"Each of the 476,960 DepEd teachers and employees has an average debt of P50,108," Andaya said.

The Government Service Insurance System is the biggest creditor having lent a total of P15 billion.

Andaya said that private lenders, known to charge atrocious interest rates, account for P8.9 billion in loans.

"The effective interests of debts range from 20 percent to 131 percent," Andaya said. "In addition, they pay fees amounting to 20 percent to 30 percent of the principal amount."

The teachers' plight is a microcosm of the entire government's debt problem, with the country's total debts now amounting to a jarring P3 trillion.

For 2004, the government is set to cough up P542 billion in principal and interest payments to domestic and foreign creditors.

In previous statements, Andaya himself had called for the adoption of a so-called "debt cap" to break the cycle of debt that has engulfed the government, with debt payments, among other things, taking away precious resources from social services.

Andaya said that the DepEd also found out that "colorum lenders" or those not regulated or licensed by the government were "allowed to do business with the agency."

You can give a family a ray of hope

P500 will provide
an evacuee-family of five a daily
meal and relief aid for one week

Please call:
632-1001 to 03/ 636-585505
e-mail tabang@mindgate.net

TABANG MINDANAW

Taste of the Future

FABTECH FOOD & TECHNOLOGY EXPO 2003

16 - 17 September 2003 at Fabtech Technology Center 1229 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City

The world's most important trade fair for the food industry is a trendsetter and source of inspiration and momentum for the food business of tomorrow. This event focuses on the latest technology in the kitchen---- at just the right time for generating additional momentum on this dynamic market. The advantage for you is that you will know the latest information on the strategies and technology that will ensure success on tomorrow's market.

FOR TRADE ONLY

16 September (Tuesday)
10-11 am A review in cake technology
by Mr. Rudy De Leon of Goodman Fielder
11-1 pm Classical Pastry and Bread Making
by Mr. Rudy De Leon of Goodman Fielder
1-3 pm Latest technology on catering services/banqueting
by Chef Ramil Aquillo
3-4 pm Soup and Sauce preparation/regeneration
4-5 pm Sandwich and Salad preparation
Sausages and pates by Ms. Winky Obusan

17 September (Wednesday)
10-11 am Ice Cream "Gelato" making
by Ms. Allene Go
11-12 noon Seminar " Cook-Chill Technology
by Mr. Johnny Casilang of Fabtech
12-1 pm Money on Coffee Beans
Espresso Coffee making
1-4 pm Taste of the future
by Chef Ramil Aquillo
4-5 pm HACCP
by Mr. Menandro Ortega of PTTC
5-6 pm Cuisine Sous Vide (Vacuum Cooking)
by Ms. Jacqueline Sy Go
6-8 pm Social Night A Cocktail Party / Grand Raffle Draw

For more information pls. call: 373-0333 / 413-3333 / 410-3333 look for Marian/Bernadette

"We have experienced the care and precision with which The Astra Group, Inc. ensures the quality and reliability of the Magic Sing units supplied to us. This is a definite plus for our customers and their loyalty to Sound Dimension. LOW PRICED MAGIC SING products simply raises a lot of DOUBTS and UNCERTAINTIES."

Edwin Discaya
SOUND DIMENSION
Park Square 1 Makati

THE ASTRA GROUP, INC.
Winner of
THE 19th ANNUAL
CONSUMER CHOICE AWARDS
FOR CONSUMER PRODUCTS

SOUND DIMENSION
Audio Video Shop
The first Magic Sing Dealer in Makati City

A Proud Dealer Of
ASTRA MAGIC SING
A CONVERGENCE OF SERVICE & QUALITY

THE ORIGINAL!
MAGIC SING
VIDEOKE MICROPHONE
From
THE ASTRA GROUP, INC.
OFFICIAL PHILIPPINE DISTRIBUTOR
par excellence

With FREE Leatherette Jacket
FREE
Mic Stand
Additional song chips available.

WITH 1 YEAR WARRANTY

MAJOR CREDIT CARDS HONORED

GUARANTEED ORIGINAL
GUARANTEED BRAND-NEW

Your assurance of genuine items
CUSTOMER SERVICE IS OUR NO. 1 PRODUCT

SOUND DIMENSION Audio Video Shop
12-B Ground Floor Parksquare 1
Ayala Center, Makati City • Tel. No.: 752-78-02

THE ASTRA GROUP, INC. G/F, Richbelt Tower Condominium, 17 Annapolis St.,
Greenhills, San Juan, MM • Tels. 722-4056, 722-8052, 722-6786 or 705-1321

Invigorate your savings.

EASTWESTBANK
SAVINGS MAXIMIZER
•Premium Savings Account
•Higher rate for higher balances
•Up to 4.5% p.a. interest
EASTWESTBANK
CHEQUEMAX PLUS
•Premium Checking Account
•With passbook and ATM option
•Up to 3.5% p.a. interest

Get your dose of East West Bank's high-yielding deposit accounts.

Introducing the East West Bank
Savings Maximizer and **ChequeMax Plus**.
Highly recommended to make your money grow!

- Maximum interest rate of **4.5%** p.a. for Savings Maximizer and **3.5%** p.a. for ChequeMax Plus depending on average daily balance.
- Deposit or withdraw anytime
- Multiple Account Access— ATM, Net Access Online Banking, or Mobile Access
- No holding period

Open an account today. Initial deposit requirement of ₱50,000 for Savings Maximizer and ₱10,000 for ChequeMax Plus.

Call 8ACCESS (822-2377)
For provincial areas, call toll free
1-800-10-8ACCESS
(1-800-10-822-2377)

EASTWESTBANK
Building Relationships. Completing Lives.

www.eastwestbanker.com
Main Office: 6795 Ayala Ave. cor. Herrera St., Salcedo Vill., Makati City
Email: service@eastwestbanker.com

BancNet
Non-Stop Banking Network

PDIC

ISSN 0116-2642
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Vol. 18 No. 269

OPINION

Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph **website:** http://www.inq7.net

The Philippine Daily Inquirer, Inc. has its business and editorial offices at
• Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
• P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
• Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
• Editorial Fax 097-4793 / 897-4794 • Advertising 897-4807
• Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.

Publisher **Isagani Yambot**
Editor in Chief **Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc**
Managing Editor **Jose Ma. D. Nolasco**
Associate Editor **Abelardo S. Ulanday**
News Editor **Artemio T. Engracia Jr.** • *Chief, News Day Desk* **Nilo B. Paurom**
Opinion Editor **Jorge V. Aruta**
National Editor **Pergentino B. Bandayrel Jr.**
City Editor **Gerry Lirio**
Senior Desk Editor **Rosario A. Garcellano**
Editorial Consultant **Amando Doronila**
Chief Photographer **Ernie U. Sarmiento**
Art & Design Director **Lynett A. Villariba**

Board Chairman **Marixi R. Prieto**
President **Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez**
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing **Renato R. Reinoso**
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services **David O. Valdes**
VP for Advertising **Felipe R. Olarte**
AVP for Circulation **Gloria P. Lardizabal**

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.

Reckless charade

EDITORIAL

AFTER HEARING two privilege speeches delivered by Sen. Panfilo Lacson and interrogating key witnesses, senators should now ask themselves: Where do we go from here?

In his two speeches, Lacson charged First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo with money laundering and graft and corruption. He implicated several people whom he either accused of serving as Arroyo's dummies or delivering or accepting dirty money and mentioned bank accounts into which "tons of money" were allegedly deposited.

But more than two weeks after he made the first of his exposés, even his allies are at a loss to say what he has proved. Sen. Edgardo Angara said the initial hearing last Tuesday established "important landmarks" in the case. For one thing, he said, both Arroyo and his godson, Eugenio Mahusay Jr., Lacson's erstwhile star witness, have confirmed the existence of the Jose Pidal account. Mahusay further admitted that he had deposited checks and withdrawn cash not only from the Pidal accounts but also from those of Vicky Toh, Arroyo's secretary, and the Lualhati Foundation. "Those basic facts are established," Angara said. "The next step is to find out who is in control of the accounts."

Good luck to him. Two banks have denied that they have any account under the name of Pidal. Both banks, as well as a third mentioned by Lacson, have refused to confirm or deny the existence of other alleged dummy accounts, saying it would be a violation of the Bank Secrecy Law. Bangko Sentral officials and several lawmakers have also said the banks cannot be compelled by the Senate to reveal such accounts. Such accounts may be opened only if the owners waive the confidentiality condition.

Now Ignacio Arroyo, the First Gentleman's brother who had earlier claimed ownership of the Pidal accounts but said they had been closed, has announced that he is willing to authorize the opening of those accounts mentioned by Lacson. Not only that, Ignacio Arroyo said he is accepting Lacson's challenge to give away to Senate employees any sums left there. So unless the younger Arroyo is a high-stakes poker player, the millions Lacson claimed to have been deposited in those accounts must have been parked elsewhere or they don't exist at all.

In the meantime, the PNP Crime Laboratory has released the results of its handwriting analysis, indicating that Ignacio Arroyo signed the name of Jose Pidal on the copies of bank documents in the hands of Lacson. Earlier the same agency declared that the First Gentleman was not the one who signed as Pidal on those documents. Lacson can be expected to question the latest PNP findings, but he will be pitting his own "analysis" against that of handwriting experts.

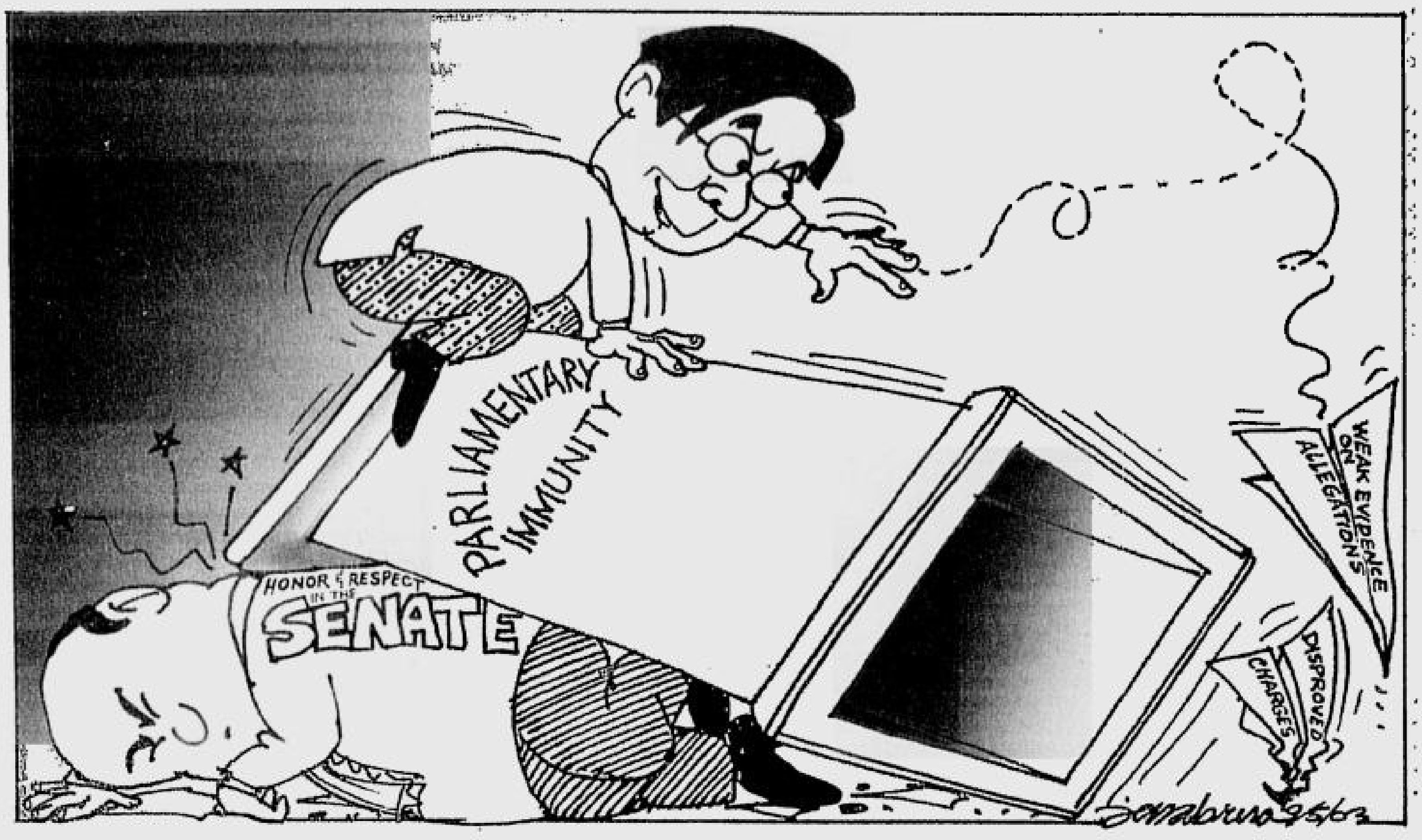
Granted the Pidal accounts have been maintained up to this day, the only thing it would prove is that somebody violated a provision of the Anti-Money Laundering Law disallowing the use of fictitious names. It wouldn't constitute proof that it was used to hide money acquired illegally. In fact, in his first privilege speech, Lacson said many millions in unused campaign funds were deposited in several dummy accounts owned by Arroyo. However, nothing in our laws prohibits holding on to campaign contributions. So where did graft and corruption and money laundering come in?

Lacson offered a more promising lead in his second speech when he charged that P1.3 million from the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office went into the Pidal account. But that claim quickly evaporated when PCSO Chair Ma. Livia Singson de Leon produced two cancelled checks from two different banks with the numbers Lacson mentioned and showed that one (for P23,000) was issued to a lotto winner and the other (for P40,000) to a charity case.

First, Lacson's key witness jumped to the opposite camp and recanted his sworn statement. Now the documents in his possession are being shown up to be spurious. So where is his case against the First Gentleman going?

Senate President Franklin Drilon said that unless Lacson shows original documents to support his charges, the Senate investigation would be at a dead end. "As of now there is no evidence in the possession of the committees," said Sen. Joker Arroyo, chair of the blue ribbon committee.

Up to this time, Lacson has failed to show proof of criminal wrongdoing on the part of Arroyo. But he has succeeded in besmirching the reputations of Arroyo and other private individuals, damaging relationships among members of the First Family and heightening the anxiety of a nation still jittery after the failed July 27 coup attempt. How much longer will the Senate allow him to continue this reckless charade?



No Cha-cha at summit, please

As I See It

Neal H. Cruz

AS feared by many people, some political leaders are going to use the political summit for their own selfish interests. Speaker Jose de Venecia insists that constitutional amendments to shift to a parliamentary system—which he has been actively pushing for a long time now—should be a main topic of the summit. "It would solve all our problems," he declared.

In a television interview, the Speaker, in his usual high-pitched and insistent voice, said the Senate should stop its investigations, particularly that on the Jose Pidal bank accounts, and concentrate on approving the holding of a Constituent Assembly to change the Constitution.

De Venecia contends that if we would only change to a parliamentary system, all our problems would be solved. Graft and corruption, coups, peace and order, poverty, squatting, unemployment, the depressed economy, traffic congestion, health—all of them would be miraculously wiped away by a parliamentary system. Nobody believes that but De Venecia keeps repeating the lie just the same.

On the contrary, graft and corruption will be worsened by a parliamentary system. Bribery will be institutionalized in the highest level of government, Parliament.

In a parliamentary system, the chief executive is not a president but the prime minister. The PM is not elected directly by the people but by the members of Parliament. Considering the general lack of moral scruples of some members of the present Congress, who would most likely be the future members of Parliament, it would be easy for the PM wannabe to buy their votes for millions of pesos each. Where would he get so much money? From the treasury, naturally, and from businessmen-donors who naturally expect to be paid back with juicy deals with the government.

Congress today is now an old boys' club, though it is balanced by the executive department and the judiciary. In a parliamentary system, it would be more so because Parliament is both the legislature and the executive department. The chief executive and the Cabinet members are also members of Parliament. The principle of checks and balances will be thrown out of the window. The whole nation would be at the mercy of the party in power. Asian nations whose prime ministers were convicted of accepting huge bribes—Japan and South Korea—have parliamentary systems.

Why do congressmen want a parliamentary system? Because it is so easy to be elected to Parliament but so difficult to be elected to the presidency. *Trapos* who have been repeatedly elected to the House have tried and failed to be elected to Malacañang—and are not likely to be elected in the future. The only chance for them to become chief executive is through the back door, by being elected not by the people but by their colleagues in Parliament. A pipsqueak politician from the hinterlands, unheard of by the people, can be prime minister if he has enough money to buy the votes of his fellow MPs.

So you can be sure that those who are pushing the Cha-cha know that they don't have the ghost of a chance to be elected president.

If the political summit will have the Cha-cha in its agenda, we may as well not hold it.

* * *

President Macapagal-Arroyo has listed the issues she wants the summit to tackle: poverty, jobs, health, drugs, terrorism and corruption.

The administration of justice is an important issue that should be included in the agenda and the judiciary should be represented in the summit. As stated in an earlier column, the slow wheels of justice contribute to the rise in crime and in graft and corruption. If the criminals and grafters know that even if caught, it would be years before they could be convicted and imprisoned, they would go ahead and do their thing. Why, they may even be able to beat the rap by bribing judges and witnesses, or delaying the trial so long that complainants or witnesses may die, or documentary records lost, before the case is decided.

I think the effective deterrent to crime and corruption is the speedy administration of justice. It is not stiff penalties but the certainty that if you commit a crime, you will be quickly thrown in jail.

* * *

GMA's plans in 2004, whether or not she is going to run, has no place in the summit. The opposition wants her to state categorically whether or not she's running. What difference does it make whether she runs or not? Obviously they are afraid of her candidacy. If she wants to keep the people and politicians guessing, let her. She does not want to be a political lame duck so early.

Instead of wasting so much time, energy and money trying to destabilize the Macapagal administration, why doesn't the opposition just throw all its efforts and resources behind GMA's strongest rival?

But that's the trouble: she does not have any strong rival who sticks out. Noli de Castro and Raul Roco are ahead of her in the surveys but the people are not so enthusiastic over them. Tormentor Ping Lacson is behind her in the surveys. Fernando Poe Jr., Erap's surrogate, is farther behind. And Danding Cojuangco, whom some politicians are still pushing for his millions, is *kulelat*.

So who is the opposition going to bet on to beat GMA? But if she doesn't run, things would be a lot easier.

* * *

TODAYS' JOKE: President Bush received this coded message from Osama bin Laden: 37OHSSV O773H.

Bush was stumped. The CIA couldn't figure it out either.

It took a Filipino, and an illiterate one at that, to crack the code. He turned the paper with the message this way and that and finally discovered the message.

You can get it by reading the message upside down.

Politics

There's the Rub

Conrado de Quiros

THE CATHOLIC Bishops' Conference of the Philippines has an interesting statement. The politicians, they say, are "out to destroy one another, in the process bringing down the entire Filipino family." This must stop because "we are all suffering politically and economically." "Our current situation calls for harmony and unity, for total commitment to economic recovery and political renewal."

But the CBCP also calls on GMA and other leaders "to respond positively and effectively to the valid issues regarding graft and corruption" that have been raised by the opposition.

Well, first off, I don't know how GMA and other leaders can respond positively and effectively to valid issues regarding graft and corruption that have been raised against **them**. Arguably, Panfilo Lacson's exposé, if provable, damns only the First Gentleman and his Second Significant Other. But there have been other exposés that implicate GMA herself, chief of them the President Diosdado Macapagal Boulevard scam, which involves a much bigger sum. How that one managed to escape the attention of the Ombudsman and the presidential anti-corruption czar, both of whom managed to notice the complaint of disgruntled education officials that Raul Roco printed calendars with his picture on them and presumably used an office driver for personal service, only they can say.

While at this, I don't know how the response of other leaders like Mike Defensor to valid issues regarding graft and corruption—which was to spirit away a vital witness to a case involving graft and corruption on the ground that he was being kept a prisoner under tight guard while being free to use a cell phone—can fall under the category of positive and effective. The use of the PSG to mount that "rescue" must suggest that if GMA is "married only to the country," she is committing adultery with her husband.

While at this, too, I don't know why they had to parade all sorts of psychologists on TV in the wake of Eugene Mahusay's retraction to determine whether you could tell from a person's eyes or gestures whether he is lying or not. All you need is to know the behavior of the poor. Mahusay is a messenger in an office headed by the First Gentleman. He is the lowliest figure in a fiefdom ruled by the most powerful man in the country. Is it possible that this modern-day serf will publicly challenge the lord of the manor, thereby exposing himself and his family to harm, merely to avenge a personal slight? You will not find that premise in the most improbably plotted telenovela.

The CBCP of course is not alone to complain about "too much politics." That was also what Mike Arroyo and GMA herself said in response to Lacson's exposé. That was what Ignacio Bunye and Mar Roxas said about the same exposé. Roxas in particular went the rounds of the AM stations last week telling listeners that the fall of the peso, rising prices and lack of investor confidence in the country owed to "too much politics."

Clearly, in this country "too much politics" and not patriotism is the last refuge of scoundrels. Patriotism is merely second to the last, flag-waving also being a favorite sport of those wreaking terror in the name of fighting it. If I recall right, "too much politics" was also what Erap and his merry men (literally, from too much carousing) said about the efforts of his compatriots to oust him.

Well, if we had not indulged in "too much politics then," GMA would have remained an obscure and unheard-of (literally too, she consistently refused to speak out) vice president and Mike Arroyo would still be making penny-ante deals with whoever would have anything to do with him. If we had not indulged in "too much politics" then, we would not have mounted the very political Edsa II and so toppled a president who got besotted from too much wine, women and song he did not mind signing a check with another name.

Politics in fact is simply the organization of power to achieve certain ends. At its worst, it merely achieves narrow personal ends, which is what we mean by "politicking." But at its best, it achieves an enormous social good. The toppling of a corrupt and irresponsible government is so. That kind of politics is always allied with morality because it asks the question why. It asks about means and ends. It asks about right and wrong.

It's not true at all that "our current situation calls for harmony and unity, for total commitment to economic recovery and political renewal." What our current situation calls for is the same thing our situation during Erap's time called for: asking what kind of harmony and unity we want. Do we want to lie down with thieves and unite with oppressors, or do we want to rise up to fight them? What our current situation calls for is the same thing our situation during Edsa II called for: asking ourselves how we might be true to its spirit. Do we leave our leaders to impose their will on us or do we bestir ourselves to impose our will on them? Economic recovery cannot spring from a diseased body politic.

In this country in fact, not having "too much politics" merely means bringing toys to the kids ravaged by war in Mindanao instead of protesting that war and demanding an end to it. Not having "too much politics" merely means rallying around GMA and her men when they are accused of bombing Davao and inventing fictitious bank depositors instead of damning their perfidy to high heavens the way we damned Erap's perfidy to high heavens. Not having "too much politics" merely means saying like the suicidal Light Brigade, "Their's not to reason why, their's but to do and die" instead of saying, "their's but to do what's right, their's but to live and fight."

I don't know about you, as we like to say, but as for me, I'll take "too much politics" anytime.

* * *

Comments to dequiros@info.com.ph

Dire shape of things ahead

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

THE ECHO chamber of the current Philippine crisis of confidence reverberates with one resounding message—that politics, with the uncertainties it has fostered, is driving the tailspin of the peso and the disruption of the of the momentum of economic growth.

It is not tiresome to repeat the disruptive impact of unsettling events, mostly political, on the economy. Over the past few days, this message has been underscored by members of the business sector. The fact that their theme echoes that of the government does not devalue the hard-nosed assessment of the businessmen who, in general, have been nervous about the direction into which political disarray in the country is heading.

The other day, John McGowan, treasurer of Hong Kong Shanghai Banking Corp. (HSBC) minced no words when he told a press briefing that the currency tailspin in recent months was not because of poor economics. "It was based on political shenanigans that took place in the last six or seven weeks," he said.

The volatility of the peso is taking place, not because of bad monetary and economic management, he said, noting that the market seems to have ignored the positive data, including the government's improved fiscal performance. The markets have reacted to political events than to claims about the sound fundamentals of the economy. When McGowan spoke about "shenanigans," he was referring to the chain of disruptive events such as the July 27 failed coup, the suspension of Bangko Sentral Governor Rafael Buenaventura, and the political bombshells exploded by Sen. Panfilo Lacson, accusing Jose Miguel Arroyo, husband of the President, of alleged money laundering.

McGowan's argument underlines that politics and economics are inseparable, and the salience of politics over economics could devastate the economy.

McGowan's assessment followed statements by Filipino businessmen at a conference of the Cebu Chamber of Commerce, saying they were worried over the medium-term effects of political instability stemming from controversies now battering the administration of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

These assessments echoed somewhat the government's analysis that the series of political events, including the failed coup and the scandal-mongering in the Philippine Senate, has sent business and consumer confidence plummeting, beginning in the second half of the year. Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho blamed the coup for the shaky performance of the peso against the US dollar and the weakness of the stock market.

"The political noise fostered by the failed mutiny and destabilization moves contributed to increased nervousness of investors," said Camacho. We may discount Camacho's arguments as self-serving, but we cannot dismiss out of hand the fact that the government's concerns are reflected by businessmen, who are at the receiving end of political turbulence.

Just a few days after they expressed their concerns over the rocky political events, centered on Oakwood and the Philippine Senate, a new wave of rumors swept the already nervous business community and the nation, in the wake of the circulation of unverified reports about the resignation of a senior military officer, said to be a move to force the resignation of the government, and the formation of a military junta,

Rumors like these are like aftershocks of an earthquake that has battered the institutional structures of Philippine democracy.

It is well, but not reassuring, that the President has emphatically addressed the nation, saying that a new coup will fail and the government is determined to crush it, and that the military leadership has warned those responsible for spreading the rumor that the military is not taking it lightly.

The public ought to be warned that the fabric of Philippine democracy has been so frayed to a snapping point by the tensions created by the series of politically turbulent events that it could not withstand another coup. Many among the public and certain groups, including those in the media, have derived vicarious pleasure from coup rumors, regarding them as just spectator sport.

A new coup is unlikely to end up like the bloodless capitulation of the renegade young officers dug in at Oakwood. If the purpose of the rumored "mass resignation" of the senior officers is to break the chain of command, and precipitate a power takeover bid, the consequences of the rupture of the change of command will be bloody. Such a rupture will divide the armed forces, in such a way it was during the failed coups of the 1980s, when soldiers fought one another. The bloody mess of the 1980s will be nothing compared to a new coup, which I am afraid, could spiral into a civil war, not just street battles between troops loyal to the government and rebel troops.

The July 27 coup, and the political events centered in the Senate, have already dangerously polarized the population. The turmoil created by the Lacson exposé in the Senate has fueled political tensions. The Senate inquiry into the charges has sharpened political divisions. In case of a new coup, civilian groups are not likely to stay outside of the fray, as kibitzers, and leave soldiers to fight. Civilians are now very much aware of the implications of a new coup, and many will not stay neutral.

Another coup will not just devastate the peso and push down the economy beyond repair. We are not talking here about currency speculations or the stock market. So, let us not talk lightly about coups. Coup rumors, if the ground is tinder dry, can spark unwanted events and acquire a life of their own. Such a conflagration will not only consume rumor or scandal mongers. All will be consumed by it.

Sense of a goose

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

CAGAYAN DE ORO—I'm in this Northern Mindanao city for the fourth installment of a series of consultation-workshops being held around the country. Organized by Pilipina through the support of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (or Foundation), the workshop series goes by a rather unwieldy name: "Stepping Up the Advocacy for the Gender-responsive Governance Agenda in the May 2004 Elections."

As chair of Pilipina, my role in the workshops is mainly to give a presentation on the "Updated Framework on Gender-Responsive Governance," a discussion of the different leadership styles of men and women that may be different but are equally valid. Indeed, studies show that given the various challenges facing leaders in government and in communities today, the "female" style of leadership, which is described generally as consultative, striving toward consensus, nurturing and sensitive to people's feelings, may be what the world needs now.

Traditionally, leadership has been seen as a "winner-takes-all" proposition. The leader—or the winner—is seen as the rightful holder of all authority, power and even wisdom. His (for this is the "male" style of leadership) will prevails, and associates and subordinates have no choice but to obey and follow.

Instead of consultation, there is the imposition of information and opinion. Instead of consensus, there is debate and the resolution of issues by "dividing the house" or by the leader's dictation.

Clearly, this style of leadership calls for winners and losers, with little room for compromise or face-saving solutions.

Some have observed, in fact, that such top-down leadership, as exemplified in the military, has led the world to its present state of nearly perpetual conflict and strife.

* * *

IN ONE of their manuals on women in politics, the Women's Political Caucus USA, analyzing survey data on public opinion regarding politics, noted a "quiet revolution of substance and style which the world is experiencing."

People are recognizing, they said, that "leadership is tied to values—values which determine our goals, objectives, and priorities, the decisions we make, the power we exert."

The "values recognized as important for today's leadership are those values traditionally characteristic of women," the Caucus asserts. These are: compassion for others, support for people less advantaged, integrity, fairness, and "leaving the earth, our country, our community, our families in better shape than we found them."

In short, what these findings show us is that "you don't have to be tough and uncompromising; you can be strong yet caring. You don't have to be dictatorial; you can lead by consensus."

What I've been discussing here, it must be made clear, are male and female leadership "styles," not leaders. I believe that a man can just as legitimately and fruitfully exercise a female style of leadership as a woman would. And by the same token, a woman could be just as tough, uncompromising and dictatorial in leadership style as a man.

I have known a number of women leaders, and not just in politics, who seem bent on "outmachoing" the machos. All in an attempt to mimic a leadership style that is proving to be outdated and increasingly rejected by constituencies.

* * *

I USUALLY close my talk on leadership with a presentation on the "Sense of a Goose," based on materials prepared by the Asia Pacific Gender Equity Network of the UNDP and the Center for Asia Pacific Women in Politics (Capwip).

In the northern hemisphere, it says, when geese fly south for the winter, they usually fly along the "V" formation, with a single "lead" bird flying ahead of the flock who follow in its wake.

As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in "V" formation, the whole flock adds at least 71 percent greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own.

The problem with migrating in this manner, though, is that the leader tires easily as it has to fly against the headwind on its own. When the head goose gets tired, it falls back to the formation and another goose takes it place.

Some insights:

- People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going more quickly and easily, because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.
- It is sensible to take turns doing demanding jobs, whether with people or with geese flying south.

And while flying, the geese in the "V" formation continually honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed. What messages do we give when we "honk" from behind?

* * *

WHAT'S most touching about this tale of the migrating geese, however, is what they do when one of them gets sick or wounded by gunshot and falls out of formation.

As the weakened goose falls, two other geese will fall out with that goose and follow it down to lend help and protection.

They stay with the fallen goose until it is able to fly or until it dies; and only then will they launch out on their own, or with another formation to catch up with their group.

The material says: If we have the sense of a goose, we will stand by each other like that.

Indeed, how do we treat our fallen leaders? How do we try to include in our activities leaders who have retired, been defeated or chose to lie low? Do we recognize the resources, not to mention wisdom, they can share with us and the perspective they can give to our analyses and plans?

Do we as both leaders and followers have as much sense as the goose?

Witches in the 16th century

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

WHEN I was into spoiling my nieces rotten I would take them to the village park while their parents had a siesta and let them loose in the playground. There, away from the over-attentive and very sanitary gaze of their mother, they could run about freely, roll in the sand box, risk losing life and limb on the swings, see-saws and slides. They learned to cope with ants, bugs, snails and worms and generally give their *yaya* a heart attack. With their *tito* or *lolo* around, *yaya* was kept at bay and they could do everything restricted back home.

On these outings I watched how other *yayas* control their wards. How did they stop tantrums without cursing or corporal punishment? *Yaya*-watching is a fascinating pastime especially abroad, when you hear things like, "Victoria stop that or I will *pak-pak* you!" Most memorable were two Filipina nannies gossiping on a Central Park bench while their wards—Jewish toddlers in strollers were fed mouthfuls of pork *chicharon*. Do threats of *mangkukulam, tianak, kapre* or the "Bombay" with a turban and motorbike work on Western children? My mother repeatedly instructed *yayas* never to threaten us with supernatural beings that lurk in the dark. Frankly, I was more terrified of the underside of our mayordoma's slippers. This was definitely more real than any imaginary *aswang*.

Yayas came to mind as I reread fray Juan de Plasencia's narrative on the customs of Filipinos in the late 1580s. He listed 12 different kinds of witches starting with the, "*catalonan*, either a man or a woman. This office was an honorable one among the natives, and was held ordinarily by people of rank." His list and classifications are quite different from what I know and are worth sharing:

"The second they called *mangagauay*, or witches, who deceived by pretending to heal the sick. These priests even induced maladies by their charms, which in proportion to the strength and efficacy of the witchcraft, are capable of causing death. In this way, if they wished to kill at once they did so; or they could prolong life for a year by binding to the waist a live serpent, which was believed to be the devil, or at least his substance.

"The third they called *manyisalat*, which is the same as *mangagauay*. These priests had the power of applying such remedies to lovers that they would abandon and despise their own wives, and in fact could prevent them from having intercourse with the latter. If the woman constrained by these means were abandoned, it would bring sickness upon her; and on account of the desertion she would discharge blood and matter.

"The fourth was called *mancocolam*, whose duty it was to emit fire from himself at night, once or oftener each month. This fire could not be extinguished; nor could it be thus emitted except as the priest wallowed in the ordure and filth which fall from the houses; and he who lived in the house when the priest was wallowing in order to emit this fire from himself fell ill and died.

"The fifth was called *hocloban*, which is another kind of witch, of greater efficacy than the *mangagauay*. Without the use of medicine, and by simply saluting or raising the hand, they killed whom they chose. But if they desired to heal those whom they made ill by their charms, they did so by using other charms. Moreover, if they wished to destroy the house of some Indian hostile to them, they were able to do so without instruments. This was in Catanduanes.

"The sixth was called *silagan*, whose office it was, if they saw anyone clothed in white, to tear out his liver and eat it, thus causing his death. This, like the preceding, was in the island of Catanduanes. Let no one, moreover, consider this a fable; because in Calauan, they tore out in this way through the anus all the intestines of a Spanish notary, who was buried in Calilaya by Father Fray Juan de Merida.

"The seventh was called *magtatangal*, and his purpose was to show himself at night to many persons without his head or entrails. In such wise the devil walked about and carried, or pretended to carry, his head to different places; and, in the morning, returned it to his body—remaining, as before, alive. This seems to me to be a fable, although the natives affirm that they have seen it, because the devil probably caused them so to believe. This occurred in Catanduanes.

"The eighth they called *osuang*, which is equivalent to sorcerer; they say that they have seen him fly, and that he murdered men and ate their flesh. This was among the Visayas islands; among the Tagalogs this did not exist.

"The ninth was another class of witches called *mangagayoma*. They made charms for lovers out of herbs, stones, and wood that would infuse the heart with love. Thus, did they deceive the people, although sometimes, through the intervention of the devil, they gained their ends.

"The tenth was known as *sonat*, which is equivalent to preacher. It was his office to help one to die, at which time he predicted the salvation or condemnation of the soul. The eleventh, *pangatahojan*, was soothsayer, and predicted the future. The twelfth, *bayoguin*, a man whose nature inclined toward that of a woman."

What people are afraid of is a reflection of their lives and times. They had witches in 16th century Philippines, now we have the Abu Sayyaf, corrupt people in government, thieves and SARS.

* * *

Comments are welcome at aocampo@ateneo.edu

Religious freedom

COMMENTARY

Ismael G. Khan Jr.

TWO very recent decisions of the Supreme Court on the complex issues separating Church and State, promulgated withi days of each other, have been virtually lost in the fury an frenzy unleashed by the aborted putsch of young and disgruntled military turks amid the smoke swirling around i the run-up to 2004.

The first decision nullified an act of the President, whicl the Court said crossed the line separating Church and State. The case of Islamic Dawah vs Executive Secretary and Office of Muslim Affairs (G.R. No. 153888, July 9, 2003) is notable for another reason. It was penned for a unanimous court by Justic Renato C. Corona who, according to critics of the Court could not be depended on to decide cases against the Chie Executive whom he had previously served as chief of staf and presidential legal counsel before she appointed him t the Supreme Court. That *utang na loob* did not stop him an the high court from declaring Executive Order No. 46, s 2001 as a violation of the constitutional provision on the separation of Church and State.

The said executive order established the Philippine Hala Certification scheme whereby the government, through th Office of Muslim Affairs (OMA), was to determine what foo products were fit to be eaten by Muslims. This is the principa activity of the Islamic Dawah Council of the Philippines (IDCP), a non-governmental organization, which issues *hala* certifications for food products manufactured in the Philippines. After the executive order was implemented, foo manufacturers with existing contracts with the IDCP shifte their requirements for *halal* certification to the OMA. Consequently, the IDCP lost substantial income, which is why it petitioned the Supreme Court to prohibit the OMA, a government agency, from undertaking a purely religious functio involving Islamic religious rites and prayers performed b imams and Muslim scholars.

The Supreme Court upheld the IDCP's arguments an contention. It ruled that, without doubt, classifying a foo product as *halal* is a religious function because the standard used are drawn from the Qur'an and Islamic beliefs. By giving OMA the exclusive power to classify food products as *halal*, EO 46 encroached on the religious freedom of Muslim organizations to interpret for Filipino Muslims what food products are fit for Muslim consumption. The justices pointed ou that OMA was created to integrate Muslim Filipinos into th mainstream of society with due regard to their beliefs, customs, traditions and institutions, and to deal with the Muslim community as a national cultural community and not a a religious group. To interpret it differently will violate th establishment clause and free exercise clause which comprise the linchpin of the hallowed doctrine of Church-Stat dichotomy.

The establishment and free exercise clauses are statec quite clearly in Article III, Section 5 of the 1987 Constitution which provides that no law shall be made respectin an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof. The principal purpose of these clauses, whicl are complementary, is to promote and protect religiou liberty. They are imbued with a secular purpose whicl does not promote or inhibit religion. They are aimed a preventing the government from imposing orthodoxy, o prescribing arbitrary parameters in ensuring freedom o worship.

For example, the fact that we are a predominantl Catholic nation does not justify applying the moral standard of the Catholic faith in judging the moral norms of other established religions.

This principle figured prominently in the resolution o the second case, Estrada vs Escritor (A.M. No. P-02-1651 Aug. 4, 2003). Soledad Escritor, a court interpreter in the Las Piñas regional trial court, was accused of cohabitin with a certain Luciano Quilapio, while they were still married to other persons. Their relationship of 23 years had borne a son. The complainant, Alejandro Estrada, allegec that this constituted disgraceful and immoral conduct under existing laws and civil service rules. In her defense, Escritor claimed that as members of the Jehovah's Witnesses. their living together had the approval of their sect as proven by a Declaration of Pledging Faithfulness which they executed in 1991. By virtue of this act, their union was legitimized by the Jehovah's Witnesses and they were, therefore, to be regarded as husband and wife. Ergo, no violation of any law or rule as this would be an unconstitutional violation of their religious freedom.

Speaking through Justice Reynato S. Puno, eight justices of the Supreme Court, a simple majority, sided with Escritor and remanded the case to the Office of the Court Administrator, and ordered the Solicitor General to examine her claimed religious belief and practice and to present evidence in justifying an exception to prevailing law and jurisprudence governing illicit relations.

In other words, the decision shows that the Supreme Court is prepared to adopt a policy of benevolent neutrality in its interpretation of the establishment and free exercise of religion clauses of the Constitution, unless it can be demonstrably proven that there is compelling state interest that would negate such an accommodation, such as a clear and present danger to established institutions of society and the law.

The far-reaching significance of this decision can readily be gleaned from the fact that if Escritor were not a Jehovah's Witness, her actuations and behavior would indeed constitute disgraceful and immoral conduct, as well as adultery and concubinage, under prevailing law and jurisprudence.

Ismael G. Khan Jr. is assistant court administrator and chief of the Public Information Office of the Supreme Court.

THEY SAID

Frustrating profession

"Politics in this country has made public service a risky, unhealthy and extremely frustrating profession."
—Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes said after resigning

To remember heroes

"We want the youth today to know that their elders put their lives on the line to preserve the integrity of the Philippines."
—Col. Emmanuel de Ocampo on the museum in Taguig where honor is given to the little-known Filipino heroes of World War II

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

Vhat price development?

a regular motorist who passes Riverbanks Center 5, I've no- ed that soil and gravel have en dumped on a part of Mariki- River to widen the "bypass" ad connecting Marikina to the is area. Having been born and ised in Marikina, I've experi- ced and dealt with floods. I'm ncerned that limiting the river uld aggravate the flood prob- n in the city.

My question is who would real- benefit from this road-widening oject? Is it the public, or the owner of the Riverbanks Center? I believe that the pros and cons, and the long-term effects of such a project, should be considered.

The project certainly involves other issues, but my main concern is environmental. I didn't notice any billboard announcing a road-widening project or a permit for that, so I called up the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. I was referred to the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) central office, which in turn referred me to the EMB regional director's office, advising me to ask whether the project had an Environmental Compliance Certificate. However, when I called the regional director's office, I was told that it was the Environmental Impact Assessment (division) that handles such requirements. So I called up that division and relayed my concern. I was told by the person who took my call that the best thing to do is to write to the regional director, attaching pictures of the road-widening project, since that office cannot investigate without anyone formalizing the concerned issue.

I thought that writing and having this published in the INQUIRER is a better and surer way of sending my message to whoever is responsible. I also hope to draw the attention of the Marikina residents to this.

—NAME WITHHELD
UPON REQUEST

on't forget the senior citizens

E 12TH Congress is coming to a ose and yet not one of the nu- erous bills designed to give ben- its to the elderly has been passed to law.

Reading the laudable objectives d the body of these bills, partic- arly the "Magna Carta for Older rsons," caused us to jump with . But sad to say, the bills—like the ones filed during the 11th Congress—look bound for the dustbin without reaching even second reading.

When the 13th Congress opens, will the elderly be assured of the passage of just one of these bills, if refiled? May we request that a bill be filed mandating all local government units to put up or establish a cemetery, free of any charge, in every town exclusively for senior citizens?

We have seen two elderly members die and their families had to stretch out the wake for over two weeks because the families could not afford the cost of burial expenses and the cost of the cemetery lot.

The provisions and objectives of the law, RA 7432, are honored more in the breach with our government agencies and instrumentalities dishonoring the elderly by being callous and indifferent to their plight.

—WENS JOMAO-AS,
Blk. L-2, Lot 6, Barangay
Emmanuel I, DBB-E, Cavite

The forgotten lot of disabled retirees

EMPLOYEES Compensation Program retirees (including my husband Ernesto C. Padron) have not been paid their pensions since March this year up to this writing. The same thing happened last year. Will this practice be the trend in years to come or is this a sign that PD 626's termination is forthcoming?

Or has the government lost concern for the retirees because they have outlived their usefulness? In seeming disregard for their feelings and welfare, no one has notified them of the reasons for the delay. Those responsible for the program could have done this at least through the newspapers. You can never know the sufferings retirees are going through. Aside from expensive medications they also need food.

According to its primer, the Employees Compensation Program aims to help workers and their dependents in the event of employment-connected disability, to promptly receive meaningful and adequate income benefits, medical rehabilitation and related services. The aim is well articulated, but with the disruptions in their quarterly medical pensions for two consecutive years now, the aim seems irrational and harsh. Most Employees Compensation pensioners are old, sickly and disabled who really need genuine concern and attention, compassion and assistance from our government. How fortunate are the GSIS retirees who are healthy and regularly receiving their monthly pension. How contrasting is the situation of Employees Compensation retirees compared to the GSIS pensioners. For the rich, whether they receive their benefits or not is no problem, but for those whose meager savings have been depleted, they depend so much on government support.

We hope the proper authorities will immediately clarify whether PD 626 is still in effect or has been abolished. We need to know so that the old, sickly and disabled people can choose between finding ways and means to sustain their lives, or, simply in desperation, to stop living in these difficult and trying times.

—JULIANA C.
PADRON,
8 Mercury St.,
Tisa Hills, Cebu City

Where's Comelec?

WHEN will the Commission on Elections start its information campaign regarding the on-going voters registration? How many Filipinos, especially students who are first time voters, will be disenfranchised because of the Comelec's lack of enthusiasm to inform the citizenry of this crucial part of the election process?

A few years ago, the majority of the youth complained of having been disenfranchized for this same reason: the Comelec's failure to undertake the appropriate information campaign. It seems that the Comelec is hard on learning its lesson.

—PSYCHE FONTANILLA,
psychefontanilla@yahoo.com

Senate hearing of Pidal case

VOICES ON INQ7.NET

THE MESSAGE is loud and clear. According to witness Eugenio Mahusay, he doesn't know Jose Pidal. But if Vicky Toh was the one giving instructions to him, who is Toh to First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo? An accountant, an employee of Arroyo? She is not working for Ignacio (Jose Miguel Arroyo's younger brother who has claimed he is Pidal and owns the Pidal accounts). Mahusay did not mention that he was working for Ignacio but for Mike Arroyo. Then why not summon the banker who opened the account of Jose Pidal? Lacson is not a saint either, but we are looking for graft and corruption in the highest levels of the government.

Jaime Cardinal Sin is endorsing Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo again. Please, Cardinal Sin, just enjoy your retirement and spend your time repenting instead.—**Lilibeth Satin, Texas, USA, via e-mail**

* * *

"Pidal" used to be the lowly alternating fulcrum responsible for the forward or backward movement of a bicycle. Now, it has gotten into the bank.

Pidal is now an acronymn for Ping's In Dramatic Aid of Legislation. "Dirty," "deceitful," "dumb" may be substituted for "dramatic," depending on what one's political persuasion is.

Should not the messenger, more so if he is a senator of the land, be responsible for the message he barks?—**Henry T. Estampador, Iloilo City, via e-mail**

* * *

This is in reaction to the ongoing political extravaganza in the Senate. Why are almost half of the senators wasting time in scrutinizing the Jose Pidal account? I am one of the millions of taxpayers who pays the salaries of these senators. There are many issues that require their attention. Why the road shows at the Senate? Most of our senators even acted uneducated—making up things and fooling millions of already confused Filipinos.

What about the case of Sen. Panfilo Lacson, isn't there supposed to be already enough evidence to convict him? Why are they still sitting on this case? Does the Senate's mandate include the protection of criminals?

I will still prefer to waste my vote than to vote for any living politician today.—**A.L. Buan, United Arab Emirates, via e-mail**

IF you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.

Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
Intramuros, Manila

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON VOTER REGISTRATION AND VALIDATION

The Commission on Elections (COMELEC) is conducting registration of voters and validation of voter registration records of those already registered.

The basic questions and answers in this exercise follows:

1. Who should register in the ongoing registration?

Registration is only for any first-time voter who:

a) Is a Filipino citizen;
b) Is at least eighteen (18) years of age, or will be so on or before 10 May 2004;
c) Is a resident of the Philippines for at least one (1) year and in the place wherein he proposes to vote for at least six (6) months on or before the May 10, 2004 elections; and
d) Is not otherwise disqualified by law.

2. Where should the applicant register?

He/she should personally appear before the Election Officer (EO) of the city/municipality/district where he/she resides, presenting any of the following:

a)Current employee's identification card (ID) with his picture and signature and the signature of the employer or authorized representative;
b)Student's ID or library card with picture and signed by the school authority;
c) Postal ID;
d)Senior Citizen's ID;
e)Driver's license;
f) NBI/PNP clearance with picture; or
g)Passport

Community Tax Certificate alone shall not be honored.

3. Until when is the registration open?

Registration is open nationwide until 31 October 2003, except in the ARMM and Isabela City, Basilan where registration has been concluded last 05 August 2003.

4. What is validation?

Validation is the process whereby a registered voter presents himself/herself before the EO to update his/her registration record by submitting to live data capture of his/her digital photograph, fingerprints and signature using the Data Capture Machine.

5. Where should the registered voter validate his/her existing registration?

At the office of the EO, other satellite offices established by the EO, and in any place where the COMELEC's Data Capture Machines are installed.

6. What is required for validation?

Nothing. Just the person himself/herself and the accomplished application form specifying where you are registered. No other documents are needed.

7. In case of failure to validate the registration record, will the registered voter still be allowed to vote on election day?

Yes, of course, being already a registered voter. But his/her identity will be subject to a more thorough scrutiny by the EO.

HOWEVER, in areas where there are no Data Capture Machines installed, the old procedure will be observed, and previously registered voters need not validate their registration records.

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

US cries uncle, asks UN for wider force in Iraq

WASHINGTON—The United States has proposed that the UN Security Council create a multinational security force for Iraq to counter mounting instability—and grant international acceptance to the US-installed Iraqi Governing Council.

The proposal followed last month's bombings of the Jordanian Embassy and UN headquarters in Baghdad and the Imam Ali Mosque in the city of Najaf, which underscored growing instability on the US-occupied Arab nation.

The draft US resolution does not explicitly place the US military in charge of the force, saying it would operate "under unified command."

But it says that the United States would report to the Security Council about efforts being undertaken by the international contingent "on behalf of all member states participating in the multinational force."

"The US will remain the commander of the unified command and there will be an element. in the resolution that calls upon the United States as the leader of the military coalition to report on a regular basis to the United Nations," US Secretary of State Colin Powell said earlier in the day.

The draft authorizes the force "to take all necessary measures to contribute to the maintenance of security and stability in Iraq and urges member states to contribute assistance, including military forces, to that effort."

It specifically endorses the Governing Council "as the principal body of the Iraqi interim administration" and expresses support for its efforts to mobilize the people of the country.

One of the tasks of the proposed force would be to provide security to the Iraqi Governing Council, which, in turn, is urged to offer "a timetable and program for the drafting of a new constitution for Iraq and for the holding of democratic elections," according to the document.

A senior State Department official said the multinational force would be loosely modelled on the UN's peacekeeping operation in East Timor run by Australia, a senior State Department official said Wednesday.

"Australia was running the show but there was a UN mandate," the official said on condition of anonymity, adding: "We'd like to see something like that."

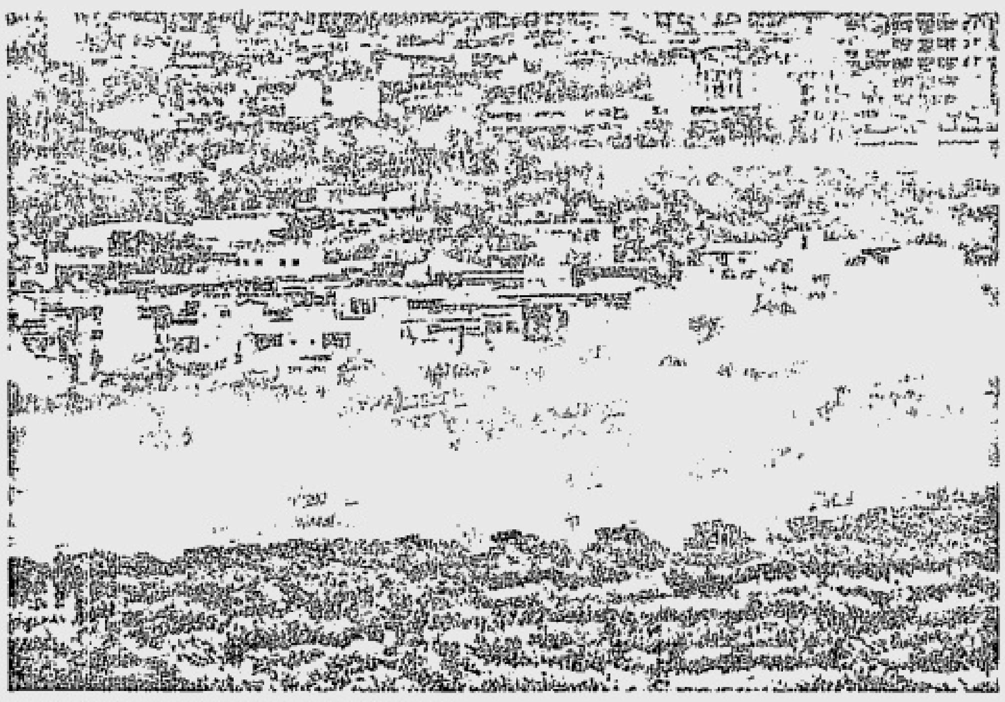
The UN special representative for Iraq will focus, under the proposed resolution, "on the facilitation of national dialogue and consensus-building, on the political transition process, the establishment of the electoral processes, and assisting the Iraqi interim administration to rejoin the international community."

The draft also urges Iraq's neighbors to respect its unity, territorial integrity and security and to prevent the transit of terrorists to Iraq as well as shipments of illegal arms and finances that would support terrorist activities.

It calls on the international community to help Iraqis in setting up a new police force and asks international financial institutions to "take immediate steps" to make their loans available to the Governing Council.

Democrats and Republicans in the US Congress found rare agreement over the need for international assistance to rebuild and secure Iraq, but were at odds over how much control US allies should be granted in exchange for that aid.

Powell, who got approval from US President George W. Bush on Tuesday to seek the new resolution, moved quickly to lobby Security Council members in phone calls to several of his counterparts. *AFP*



BIGGEST WAR GAME IN TAIWAN

Rockets are fired by a Taiwan army unit at a mock enemy target in the island's biggest ever war game held in Litzechien, northeastern Ilan county, Sept. 4. At least 6,000 soldiers participated in the drill code-named "Han Kuang 19" (Han Glory) presided over by President Chen Shui-bian.

AFP

Poor planning behind post-war Iraq unrest, US report reveals

WASHINGTON—A "brutally honest" report prepared for the US military Joint Chiefs of Staff blames post-war unrest in Iraq on hurried, inadequate planning before the invasion, defense officials said on Wednesday.

The classified report on lessons learned in the war says US commanders were so busy preparing to defeat Iraq's military and directing the fight that they were given too little time to properly prepare for "Phase IV" peace, according to the officials.

It also flays planning for so-far fruitless efforts to find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. The threat from such chemical and biological weapons was cited by President George W. Bush and the Pentagon as a major reason for the invasion.

"It is a brutally honest report," one of the officials, who asked not to be identified, said. "It shows that the military is self-critical—not just satisfied with 93 percent effectiveness in combat."

The assessment, first reported in The Washington Times on Wednesday, has not yet been approved by Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the nation's top military officer.

With US troops being killed daily in guerrilla attacks in Iraq and suffering more casualties in the post-war period than in the drive to capture Baghdad, the Bush administration has come under sharp criticism from members of Congress over strategy in the unsettled country.

The Times published excerpts from the report—which gave high marks for joint war fighting capabilities among US military services and the ability to bomb "time-sensitive" targets—that were confirmed by defense officials familiar with it.

The newspaper quoted the report as saying, "Phase IV objectives were identified, but the scope of the effort required to continually refine operational plans for defeat of (the) Iraqi military limited the focus on Phase IV," the reconstruction of Iraq.

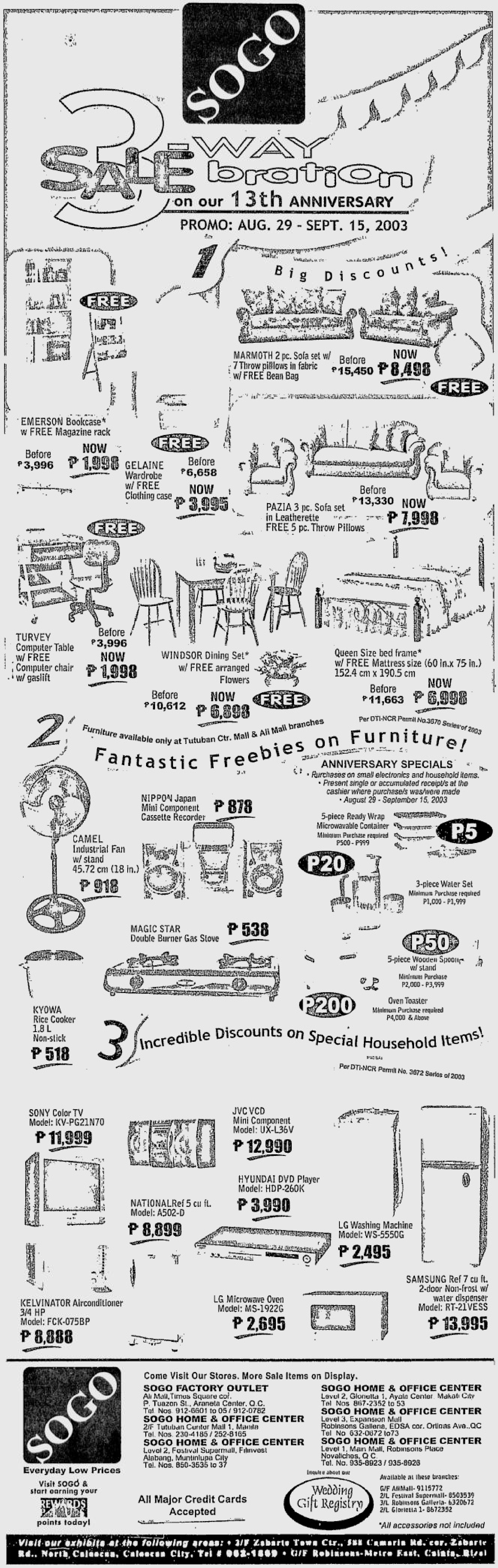
"Late formation of Department of Defense (Phase IV) organizations limited time available for the development of detailed plans and pre-deployment coordination," it added.

The report, compiled from interviews with senior officers such as now-retired Army Gen. Tommy Franks, who headed the war effort, does not name any individuals for blame.

But it charges that planning for the hunt for weapons of mass destruction was inadequate, especially because the military was not trained for such efforts.

"Weapons of mass destruction elimination and exploitation planning efforts did not occur early enough in the process to allow CentCom (the US Central Command headed by Franks) to effectively execute the mission," the Times quoted the report.

The newspaper said the report, prepared last month, showed that Bush approved the overall war strategy for Iraq in August 2002, eight months before the first bomb was dropped and six months before he asked the UN Security Council for a war mandate that he did not receive. *Reuters*



SOGO
3-WAY SALEbration on our 13th ANNIVERSARY
PROMO: AUG. 29 - SEPT. 15, 2003

1 Big Discounts!

MARMOTH 2 pc. Sofa set w/ 7 Throw pilllows in fabric w/ FREE Bean Bag
Before ₱15,450 NOW ₱ 8,498

FREE

EMERSON Bookcase* w FREE Magazine rack
Before ₱3,996 NOW ₱ 1,998

FREE

GELAINE Wardrobe w/ FREE Clothing case
Before ₱6,658 NOW ₱ 3,995

PAZIA 3 pc. Sofa set in Leatherette FREE 5 pc. Throw Pillows
Before ₱13,330 NOW ₱ 7,998

FREE

TURVEY Computer Table w/ FREE Computer chair w/ gaslift
Before ₱3,996 NOW ₱ 1,998

WINDSOR Dining Set* w/ FREE arranged Flowers
Before ₱10,612 NOW ₱ 6,898

FREE

Queen Size bed frame* w/ FREE Mattress size (60 in.x 75 in.) 152.4 cm x 190.5 cm
Before ₱11,663 NOW ₱ 6,998

Per DTI-NCR Permit No.3670 Series of 2003

2 Fantastic Freebies on Furniture!
Furniture available only at Tutuban Ctr. Mall & Ali Mall branches

ANNIVERSARY SPECIALS
• Purchases on small electronics and household items.
• Present single or accumulated receipt/s at the cashier where purchase/s was/were made
• August 29 - September 15, 2003

NIPPON Japan Mini Component Cassette Recorder ₱ 878

CAMEL Industrial Fan w/ stand 45.72 cm (18 in.) ₱ 918

MAGIC STAR Double Burner Gas Stove ₱ 538

KYOWA Rice Cooker 1.8 L Non-stick ₱ 518

P5 5-piece Ready Wrap Microwavable Container Minimum Purchase required P500 - P999

P20 3-piece Water Set Minimum Purchase required P1,000 - P1,999

P50 5-piece Wooden Spoon w/ stand Minimum Purchase P2,000 - P3,999

P200 Oven Toaster Minimum Purchase required P4,000 & Above

3 Incredible Discounts on Special Household Items!
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3672 Series of 2003

SONY Color TV Model: KV-PG21N70 ₱ 11,999

JVC VCD Mini Component Model: UX-L36V ₱ 12,990

HYUNDAI DVD Player Model: HDP-260K ₱ 3,990

NATIONALRef 5 cu ft. Model: A502-D ₱ 8,899

LG Washing Machine Model: WS-5550G ₱ 2,495

SAMSUNG Ref 7 cu ft. 2-door Non-frost w/ water dispenser Model: RT-21VESS ₱ 13,995

KELVINATOR Airconditioner 3/4 HP Model: FCK-075BP ₱ 8,888

LG Microwave Oven Model: MS-1922G ₱ 2,695

SOGO
Everyday Low Prices
Visit SOGO & start earning your REWARDS points today!

Come Visit Our Stores. More Sale Items on Display.

SOGO FACTORY OUTLET
Ali Mall,Times Square cor. P. Tuazon St., Araneta Center, Q.C.
Tel. Nos. 912-6601 to 05 / 912-0782

SOGO HOME & OFFICE CENTER
2/F Tutuban Center Mall 1, Manila
Tel. Nos. 230-4185 / 252-8165

SOGO HOME & OFFICE CENTER
Level 2, Festival Supermall, Filinvest Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Tel. Nos. 850-3535 to 37

SOGO HOME & OFFICE CENTER
Level 2, Glorietta 1, Ayala Center, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 867-2352 to 53

SOGO HOME & OFFICE CENTER
Level 3, Expansion Mall Robinsons Galleria, EDSA cor. Ortigas Ave.,QC
Tel. No. 632-0672 to73

SOGO HOME & OFFICE CENTER
Level 1, Main Mall, Robinsons Place Novaliches, Q.C.
Tel. No. 935-8923 / 935-8926

All Major Credit Cards Accepted

Inquire about our Wedding Gift Registry

Available at these branches:
G/F AliMall- 9115772
2/L Festival Supermall- 8503539
3/L Robinsons Galleria- 6320672
2/L Glorietta 1- 8672352

*All accessories not included

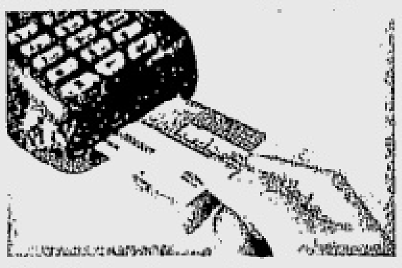
Visit our exhibits at the following areas: • 2/F Zabarte Town Ctr., 588 Camarin Rd. cor. Zabarte Rd., North Caloocan, Caloocan City, Tel # 962-1869 • G/F Robinsons-Metro East, Cainta, Rizal

SM launches loyalty program

The SM Group, the country's largest retail conglomerate, has launched its own customer loyalty program. Called SM Advantage, the loyalty points-based program initially covers SM Department Store, SM Supermarket and Super SM Hypermarket in Metro Manila, Bacoor and Pampanga.

Offering an endless selection of rewards, freebies and privileges to its members, SM Advantage promises to be the biggest loyalty program in the Philippines. "Just when you thought we've already got it all, we come up with something bigger," says Rey Maclang, marketing head of Marketing Convergence, Inc., the SM affiliate responsible for the design, development and implementation of SM Advantage. According to Maclang, SM Advantage is "SM's way of thanking the millions of shoppers who continue to make SM their favorite shopping destination".

SM branches in the provinces, as well as the other SM retail affiliates and selected mall tenants, are expected to be included in the SM Advantage loyalty program sometime next year.


No other loyalty card gives you more!

Applying for an SM Advantage membership

The program's renewable two-year membership is open to everyone who is 18 years old and above. Minors between the ages of 12 and 17 must obtain parental consent in order to apply. Membership fee is pegged at P100.

Anyone wishing to be an SM Advantage member must fill out an application form and pay the membership fee in cash at any designated cashier's counter of SM Department Store, SM Supermarket, and Super SM Hypermarket. He should then submit the cashier-validated form, and present a valid ID, to any SM Advantage Booth or Counter located in these stores. After checking the application form for completeness, the Customer Service Assistant will give the applicant a claim stub indicating the date for claiming his personalized SM Advantage Card.

Membership application forms are available at the following: a) SM Department Store, SM Supermarket and Super SM Hypermarket; b) SM Cinema, SM Bowling Center, SM Ice Skating Rink, Storyland and participating amusement arcades in SM malls; c) other SM retail affiliates and d) Banco de Oro branches. The application form may also be downloaded and printed from the SM Advantage website: www.sm-advantage.com.ph

Shopping has nev
been so rev
introducing
888
PAME
exciting rewards
Get big discounts on selec
exclusive to SM Advantage
Or use your points as disc
succeeding purchases ever on
freebies &
privileges
SM
DEPARTMENT STORE
SUPERMARKET
SUPER SM HYPERMARKET
SM CINEMA
Apply Now!
Visit the SM Advantage Booth or Counter at any SM Department Store, SM Supermarket and Supe

RETAIL PARTNERS

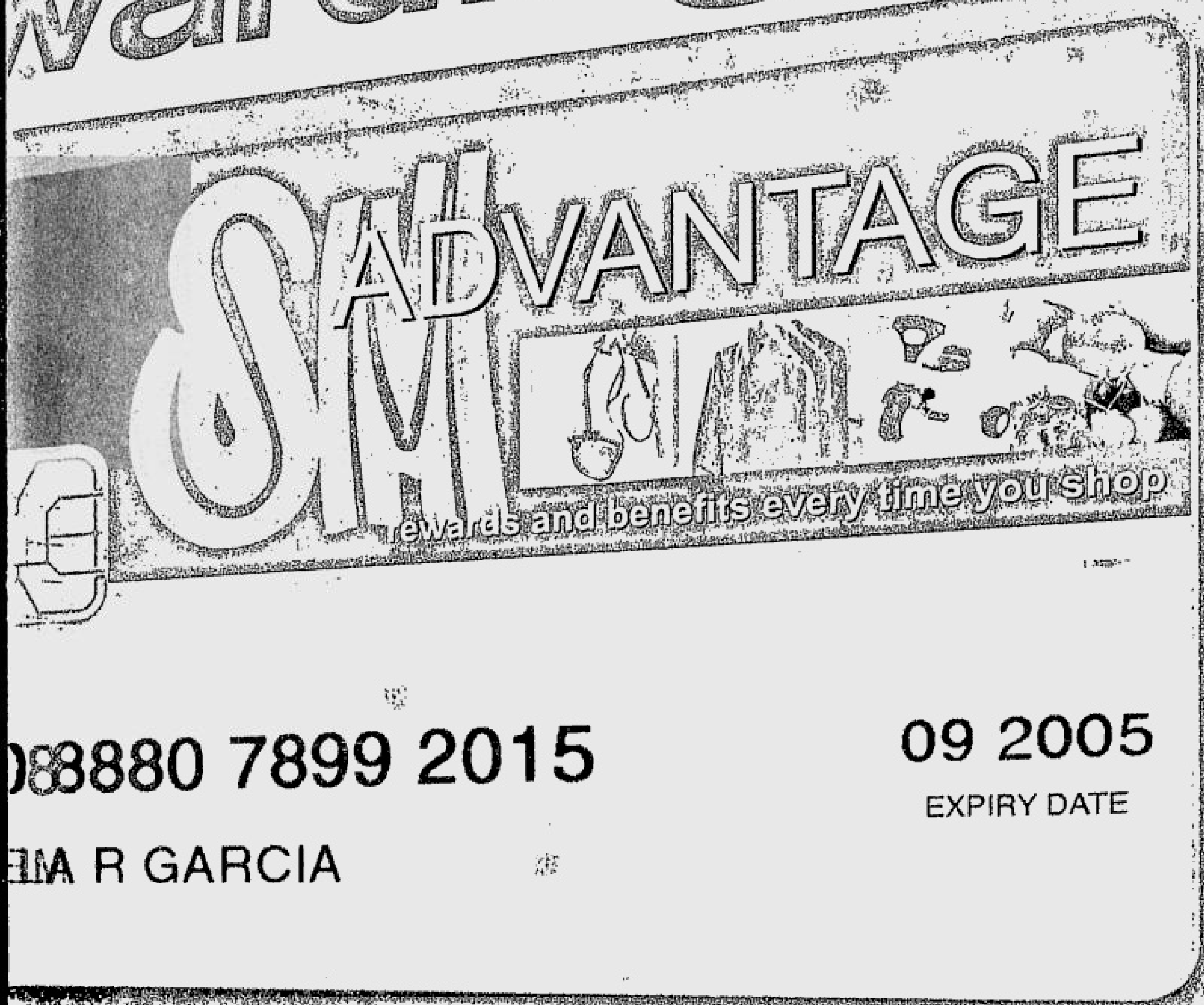
The SM Advantage Loyalty Program gives new definition to smart shopping by rewarding customers for every peso they spend at SM Department Store, SM Supermarket and Super SM Hypermarket.

SM DEPARTMENT STORE
"We've got it all" one-stop shopping

SM SUPERMARKET
Freshness at total lower cost everyday

SUPER SM HYPERMARKET
More choices at super prices for everyday living.

er
warding!



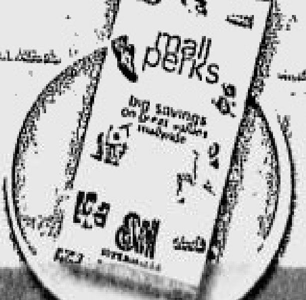
rewards points every time you
op. To redeem, choose from an
less selection of items at SM
epartment Store, SM Supermarket
Super SM Hypermarket

of items
embers
oups or
ale items

more savings

Take advantage of exciting
freebies worth more than
P700 and exclusive member
privileges that you and your
family can enjoy

freebies
privileges
specials
rewards
savings
freebies
discounts
savings



TOM'S WORLD QUANTUM

SM Hypermarket
Bacoor and Pampanga

free mall perks coupons booklet to the first 80,000 SM Advantage members

EXCITING REWARDS

SM Advantage points may be used to redeem an endless selection of exciting rewards categorized as follows:

In-Store Merchandise - Points earned may be exchanged for anything and everything sold at any SM Department Store, SM Supermarket and Super SM Hypermarket.

Exclusive Merchandise - A selection of seasonal specialty items available only through SM Advantage rewards points. SM Advantage cardholders may check them out at their nearest SM Department Store, SM Supermarket or Super SM Hypermarket branches.

Treats - Points may be used to treat the whole family to some fun and relaxation at SM Cinema, SM Bowling Center, SM Ice Skating Rink, Storyland and participating mall based amusement arcades in SM Malls: Quantum, Club Synergy, Worlds of Fun and Tom's World.

Points earned can be immediately used to redeem rewards on the next transaction, even on the same day.

On the other hand, up to six SM Advantage members may opt to pool their points in order to redeem an item of higher value.

EXCLUSIVE PRIVILEGES

SM Advantage cardholders enjoy a long list of exclusive privileges which they can share with their family.

- **Exclusive discounts** on selected items.
- **10% discount** on SM Cinema rates
- **FREE** entry to Storyland, any day
- **50% OFF** on the first game at SM Bowling Center
- **50% OFF** on the first 2 hours at SM Ice Skating Rink
- Buy 3, get **1 FREE** Storyland Ride-All-You-Can Tag
- **10% discount** on Storyland Party Packages
- Buy 10 tokens, **get 2 FREE** at
  - Quantum
  - Club Synergy
  - Tom's World
  - Worlds of Fun

FREEBIES

The SM Advantage Card is pre-loaded with perks. Members automatically receive single-use freebie coupons worth over P700.

- **FREE** one (1) movie ticket when you buy two (2) at SM Cinema
- **FREE** one (1) regular-sized popcorn with purchase of a large drink from SM Cinema Snack Bar
- **FREE** one (1) game at SM Bowling Center
- **FREE** one (1) hour ice time at SM Ice Skating Rink
- **FREE** one (1) Storyland Ride-All-You-Can Tag
- **FREE** Club Storyland membership for one dependent
- Buy 20 tokens, get **6 FREE** at
  - Quantum
  - Club Synergy
  - Tom's World
  - Worlds of Fun

TOUCHPOINTS

To know more about the SM Advantage Loyalty Program, shoppers are invited to contact the following:

- **SM Advantage Counters and Booths** in all SM Department Stores, SM Supermarkets and Super SM Hypermarkets.
- **24-hour hotline 833-8888.**
- **www. sm-advantage.com.ph.** Log on for the latest SM Advantage promos, events and lifestyle tips.
- **Email help@sm-advantage.com.ph** for questions, comments or suggestions.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Judges 'sensed' Bashir headed JI but lacked proof

JAKARTA—An Indonesian judge Thursday defended the controversial verdict on Abu Bakar Bashir, saying he and his colleagues "sense" that the Muslim cleric heads the Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) terror network but lacked evidence.

"We can sense that he is the leader of JI but we cannot prosecute someone based on our own feelings or assumptions," Judge Andi Samsan Nganro, a spokesperson for the panel of five judges, said.

The panel on Tuesday imprisoned Bashir, 65, for four years rather than the 15 years prosecutors had requested.

They convicted him of taking part in a plot to overthrow the government but not of leading the plot, and said there is no proof that he heads JI.

The al-Qaida-linked network is blamed for a string of bloody attacks, including church bombings which killed 19 people on Christmas Eve 2000; the Bali blasts last Oct. 12 that killed 202 people, including 88 Australians; and last month's Jakarta Marriott Hotel blast that claimed 12 lives.

Australian Prime Minister John Howard expressed disappointment that Bashir did not get a longer sentence and Foreign Minister Alexander Downer said he remained convinced Bashir was the spiritual leader of JI.

Nganro said the fact that Bashir knew many JI members—several of whom are on trial for the Bali bombings—was the reason the judges felt he was the head of JI.

Among the JI members known by Bashir were Hambali, Imam Samudra and Amrozi, Nganro said. Amrozi was sentenced to death last month for the attack and Samudra will hear his verdict next Wednesday.

Hambali, allegedly one of the world's top terrorists, is in US custody at a secret location.

But despite knowing about Bashir's relations with those men, Nganro said he and his colleagues could not convict Bashir as JI leader.

"Only witnesses from Singapore and Malaysia gave damaging evidence against Bashir but we can see that even they had no direct knowledge that Bashir was the head of JI.

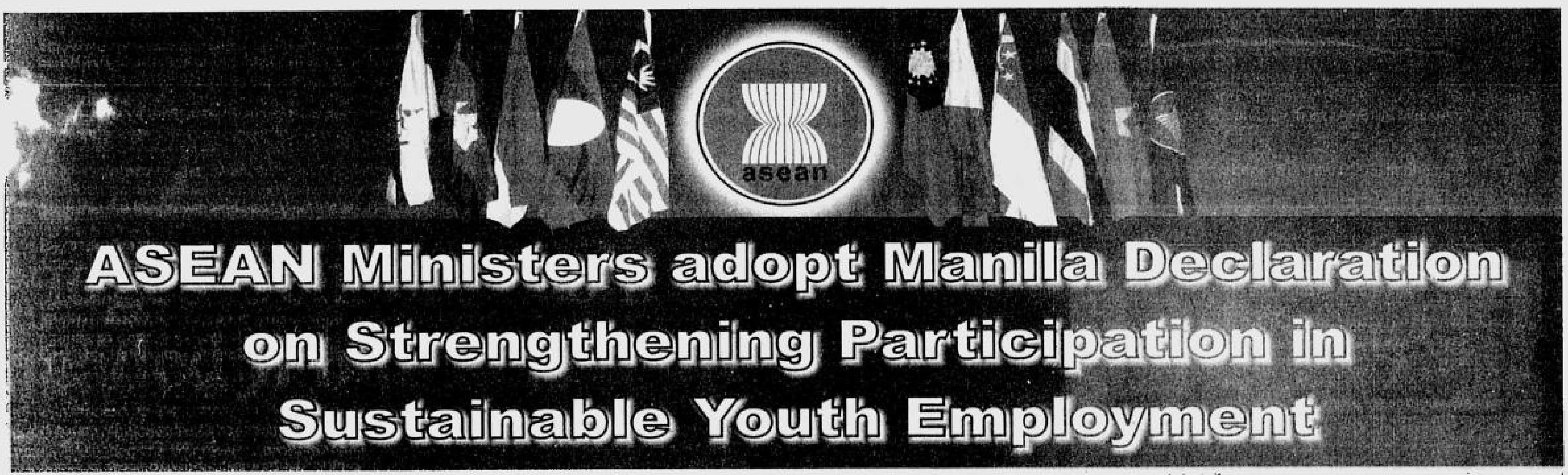
"Therefore there is not enough evidence that we can use to convict him on that count," Nganro said.

Nganro said the judges convicted Bashir of treason because of his "knowledge and approval for military training by JI members in Afghanistan and Moro (the southern Philippines) as part of a jihad (holy war) mission."

He dismissed speculation of outside pressure in the verdict.

"As professional judges we always try to be as objective as possible for every trial and for Bashir's case, our decision was based on evidence that surfaced during the trial as well as our mutual agreement," Nganro said. *AFP*

ENDEARING PRINCESSES
Japanese Princess Aiko (right), in the arms of her mother Crown Princess Masako, points her finger at Masako's parents' residence in Tokyo Sept. 4 upon her first visit to the house. AFP



ASEAN Ministers adopt Manila Declaration on Strengthening Participation in Sustainable Youth Employment

Fourth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth

Manila, Philippines • 3-4 September 2003

WE, the Ministers Responsible for Youth, of the ten (10) ASEAN member countries: Brunei Darussalam, Kingdom of Cambodia, Republic of Indonesia, Laos People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Singapore, Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam;

HAVING gathered in Manila on 3-4 September 2003 for the Fourth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY IV);

DESIROUS TO strengthen the gains brought about by and consistent with the *Jakarta Declaration* of the First AMMY in 1992, the *Kuala Lumpur Agenda on ASEAN Youth Development* of the Second AMMY in 1997; and the *Yangon 2000 Declaration on Preparing ASEAN Youth for the Challenges of Globalization* of the Third AMMY in 2000;

FURTHER AFFIRMING the UN Millennium Summit Declaration, particularly the resolution to implement strategies to give young people everywhere a real chance to find decent and productive work;

RECALLING the Youth Employment Network initiated by the UN Secretary General, in collaboration with the ILO and the World Bank during the Youth Employment Summit in Alexandria, Egypt;

EMPHASIZING the importance of youth as a vital human resource of ASEAN nations and the need to formulate and implement youth development policies and programs to realise the potential of this segment of ASEAN's population;

UNDERSCORING our commitment towards empowering the ASEAN youth so that they are fully confident and capable of meeting the challenges of globalisation;

RECOGNISING that continued support through policies, programs, and technical interventions is necessary to sustain the strength and vitality of the youth sector within ASEAN societies;

MINDFUL of the Hanoi Plan of Action, priorities calling for implementation of the ASEAN Work Programme on Skills Training on Out-of-School Youth, to strengthen their capacity to obtain gainful employment, and to foster small and medium-sized enterprises which constitute the majority of industries in ASEAN and play a significant role in the over-all economic development of ASEAN nations;

SEEKING to address unemployment and underemployment as an emerging major area of concern for the youth of ASEAN within the context of globalisation;

DO HEREBY DECLARE to strengthen participation in sustainable youth employment through the following:

1. ***Improve*** the availability and quality of human resources training and leadership development programs designed specifically for ASEAN youth so that they are better equipped to participate in the growth and development efforts of their respective countries;

2. ***Ensure*** that all youth subsectors, particularly the out-of-school youth, youth with special needs, youth-at-risk, are given appropriate access to policy and program development both as beneficiaries and partners in sustainable employment;

3. ***Prioritise*** entrepreneurship and sustainable employment on ASEAN's development agenda to open new opportunities for the young people that would allow them to create a better future for themselves and their ASEAN community;

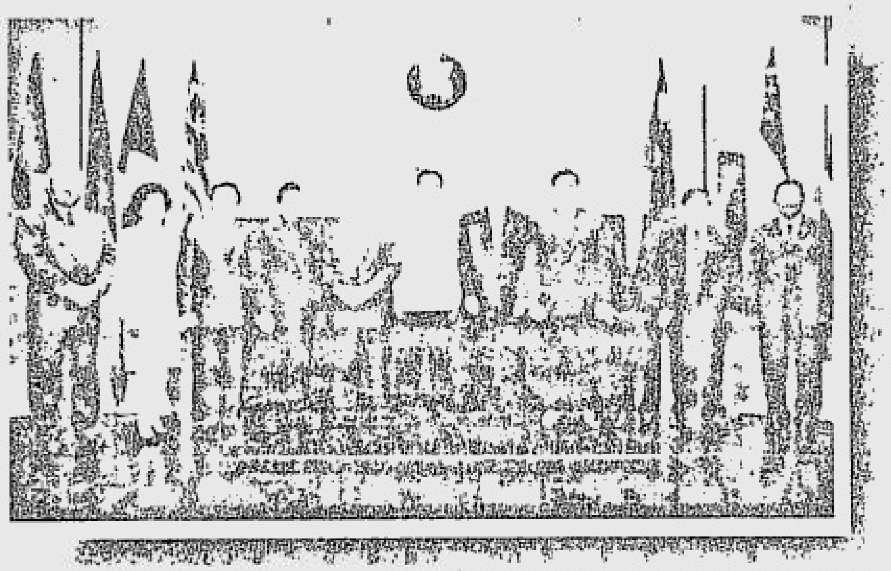
4. ***Create*** a nurturing environment conducive for the development of young entrepreneurs with access to education, skills-training, and capacity-building that is essential for increased productivity and self-employment;

5. ***Promote*** the spirit and the culture of entrepreneurship among the ASEAN youth and facilitate the establishment of small and medium-sized enterprises that would create jobs and address the unemployment issue of young people so that they would become productive partners for a strong ASEAN region;

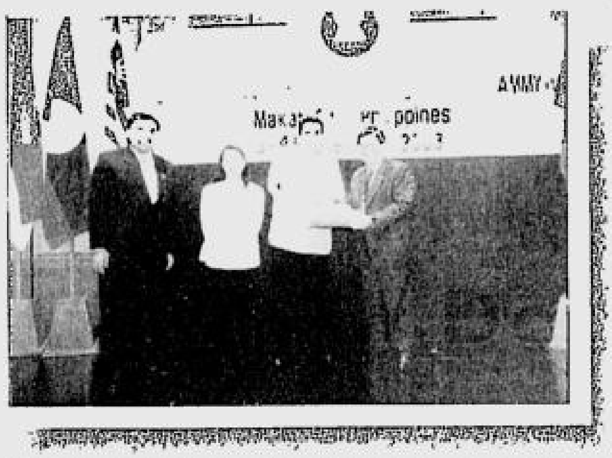
6. ***Establish*** a network of young entrepreneurs at the national and ASEAN level so that they could link up and together build their capacities and skills for better competitiveness in the global market place;

7. ***Strengthen*** the participation of youth volunteer groups and organisations in the socio-economic development process so that they would be able to augment and complement government and non-government resources and efforts directed at youth development;

8. ***Enhance and strengthen*** international, regional, and national partnerships with educational institutions so that these can perform an active role in improving the skills, competence, and employability of ASEAN youth, as well as help in developing an integrated and systematic enterprise development and youth employment program for the region;



The ASEAN Ministers with the ASEAN Secretariat Deputy Sec. Gen. Wilfrido Villacorta (5th from L) and NYC Chairperson Paolo Benigno Aquino IV (center).



NYC Commissioners Christopher Lawrence Arnuco, Araceli S. Aves and Chairperson Paolo Benigno A. Aquino IV handing over a token to Deputy Sec. Gen. Wilfrido Villacorta of the ASEAN Secretariat.

9. ***Encourage*** closer linkages between ASEAN and other like-minded organisations addressing youth employment concerns to further pursue innovative approaches in jointly addressing the global challenge of youth employment; and

10. ***Implement*** the ASEAN Work Programme on Preparing ASEAN Youth for Sustainable Employment and Other Challenges of Globalisation, adopted by the 4th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth.

DONE in Manila, Philippines, this Fourth Day of September in the Year 2003, in one single copy in English.

(Signed by:)

FOR BRUNEI DARUSSALAM:
Pehin Dato Haji Awang Hussain
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports

FOR THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA:
Chey Chap
Undersecretary of State
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA:
Abdul Malik Fadjar
Minister of National Education

FOR THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC:
Phetsakhone Luang Aphay
Acting Secretary General
Laos People's Revolutionary Youth Union

FOR MALAYSIA:
Dato Talaat Bin Husain
Deputy Secretary General
Ministry of Youth and Sports

FOR THE UNION OF MYANMAR:
General Sein Htwa
Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES:
Paolo Benigno A. Aquino IV
Chairperson
National Youth Commission

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE:
Mohammad Maliki Osman
Member of Parliament for Sembawang GRC and Council Member of the National Youth Council

FOR THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND:
Panit Nitithanprapas
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Social Development and Human Security

FOR THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM:
Hoang Binh Quan
Chairman
National Committee on Youth of Vietnam

Organized by the NATIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION and the DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

US roads, wires, pipes crumbling, engineers say

WASHINGTON—The United States' infrastructure is full of cracks, leaks and holes and is worsening in many ways, according to an analysis by civil engineers that gives a harsh assessment of the country's transportation, water and energy systems.

A report prepared by the American Society of Civil Engineers said the condition of 12 categories of infrastructure hasn't improved in the past two years.

The report blamed a weak economy, limited federal programs, population growth and the threat of terrorism, which diverted money to security.

"Americans' concerns about security threats are real, but so are the threats posed by crumbling infrastructure," Thomas Jackson, ASCE president, said in a statement. "It doesn't matter if the dam fails because cracks have never been repaired or if it fails at the hands of a terrorist. The towns below the dam will still be devastated."

Schools received the worst grade from the engineers, who said three out of four school buildings are inadequate for schoolchildren. They estimate it will cost more than $127 billion to build new classrooms and modernize outdated schools.

Energy transmission also earned a low grade, but the engineers said the trend is getting worse. Investment in energy transmission fell by $115 million annually, to $2 billion a year in 2000 from $5 billion in 1975. Actual capacity increased by only 7,000 megawatts a year, 30 percent less than needed to keep up with power demand.

The engineers' report gave US roads a low grade. "The nation is failing to even maintain the substandard conditions we currently have," the report noted, adding that the average rush hour grew by more than 18 minutes between 1997 and 2000.

The report gave bridges a better grade, noting that 27.5 percent of US bridges were structurally deficient or obsolete in 2000.

The report gave transportation systems a barely average grade, despite increased spending over the past six years. "Efforts to maintain the systems are outpaced by growth in ridership," the report said.

President George W. Bush's administration in May proposed spending $247 billion on roads, bridges and mass transit, 13 percent more than the previous six-year plan.

The report's also said "little is being done to capitalize on the low growth period after 9/11 to address the nation's aviation infrastructure needs."

The nation's 54,000 drinking water systems are aging rapidly and some sewer systems are 100 years old, while federal funding remains flat, the report noted and the number of unsafe dams had risen to nearly 2,600 and 21 dam failures in the past two years. *AP*

ISANG TAPAL AYOS NA!
Stops leaks for Years
EVO-STIK
FLASHBAND
Instant seal for roofs & gutters!
ROOFING - can be painted
DRAIN PIPES
FLASHING - (For best result, prime concrete surface)
VANS & SHIPPING CONTAINER
Available in hardwares and Shopping Mall hardwares.
Contact us for the EVO-STIK dealers nearest you.
Exclusively Distributed By,
PHILIPPINE INSULATION CO., INC.
G/F, Pascor Bldg., Pascor Drive, Parañaque City
email: pici@nolasia.net
Tel. Nos.: 851-5935 • 851-7135 to 36
853-1251 • 851-5923 • 851-7147
Fax No.: 851-6421
DEALERS WELCOME!

Unrepentant anti-abortion killer executed

STARKE, Fla.—Florida put to death anti-abortion militant Paul Hill on Wednesday for the shotgun murder of a doctor and his bodyguard at an abortion clinic, after Hill said his execution would make him a martyr.

The 49-year-old defrocked Presbyterian minister was pronounced dead at 6:08 p.m. at the Florida State Prison in Starke, a prison spokesperson said. Hill was put to death by chemical injection, becoming the first person executed in the United States for murdering a doctor who performed abortions.

He was sentenced to die for killing Dr. John Britton, 69, and his bodyguard, James Barrett, 74, at the Ladies Center in Pensacola, Florida, on July 29, 1994.

Prison spokesperson Sterling Ivey said that as Hill lay awaiting the lethal injection, his last words were: "If you believe abortion is a lethal force, you should oppose the force and do what you have to to stop it. May God help you to protect the unborn as you would want to be protected."

Hill declined a sedative and thanked Jesus for his loving family and for saving him from his sins, Ivey said. "His mood was positive even as he made his final statements," he said.

Claps of thunder from a passing storm echoed in the death chamber after the deadly chemicals were injected, Ivey said.

Hill took a couple of short quick breaths and was pronounced dead six minutes after the injection, he said.

Hill's body will be released to his wife after a routine autopsy, Ivey said.

Hill said in a jailhouse interview on the eve of his execution that he had no regrets and no remorse for the killings.

"I believe the state, by executing me, will be making me a martyr," said Hill.

Abortion rights activists feared his execution would spur a wave of reprisal violence by fringe elements of the anti-abortion movement, and warned abortion providers to step up security at clinics. Violent attacks at US abortion clinics, from bombings to invasions to snipers, have subsided in the past five years. *Reuters*

WORLDBRIEFS

Libya-France deal snagged

PARIS—Talks to finalize Libyan compensation for 170 people killed in the 1989 bombing of a French UTA flight are snagged on procedural issues, families of victims and a source close to the talks said on Wednesday. Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi trumpeted the deal in a speech on Sunday, saying it marked a new page in Tripoli's relations with the West. France said the deal was a precondition for it agreeing to the end of UN sanctions against Libya. A source said no agreement had been signed because Libya was resisting a French demand for the compensation money to be paid into an escrow account like the one used for August's settlement of the 1989 bombing of a Pan Am jet over Scotland. "It's getting to the silly stage where the French Foreign Ministry is insisting on a payment method that looks as identical as possible to the Lockerbie deal," said one source familiar with the negotiations, who requested anonymity. *Reuters*

1 year for blackout probe

WASHINGTON—The president of the North American Electric Reliability Council, or NERC, said on Wednesday it will take another four weeks to collect all the engineering data related to the massive Aug. 14-15 blackout, and at least another year to complete a report on the cause of the outage. "It's probably going to take another year to finally conclude," NERC President Michehl Gent told a congressional panel. He said NERC, an industry group, had collected about 90 percent of the data related to the blackout, which left up to 50 million people in the dark, and verified about 40 percent of that information. *Reuters*

Australia hit on gay bias

SYDNEY—The United Nations has accused Australia of human rights breaches after finding it discriminated against the gay partner of a war veteran by not granting him a pension, the man's lawyer said Thursday. Solicitor Michelle Hannon said the UN Human Rights Commission ruled earlier this week that Canberra discriminated against Edward Young, whose partner of 38 years, Larry Cains, served in Borneo during World War II. Cains died from heart problems in 1998. Australian law permits partners of war veterans to claim a pension but the Department of Veteran's Affairs refused one for Young, saying only married or heterosexual long-term partners were eligible. Young took his case to the UN in 1999. *AFP*

29
FD Trinitron
WEGA
With our kind of service, anything's possible.
A passion to please you
—just one of the many things that sets Avid stores apart.
The Avid Experience
Avid AV Surfer
Avid Sony Shop
Avid BEST BRANDS!
AV SURFER ALABANG TOWN CENTER, ALIMALL, PASONG TAMO, ROCKWELL, AYALA-CEBU, ROBINSONS-IMUS, ROBINSONS-PAMPANGA • CALL AUDIO AND VIDEO-SHOP GALLERIA • AVID SONY SHOP UN, MEGAMALL, QUAD, FILINVEST, SM-CEBU, GREENBELT 3 • BEST BRANDS BACOOR, BALINTAWAK, KALAW, TUTUBAN, ISETANN-RECTO • BEYOND FARMERS PLAZA www.avsurfer.com

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonnan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
23 Aurora St., Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

Across the NATION

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph
Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: pdivis@skyinet.net

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: pdiminda@dv.weblinq.com

PMA not offering Anti-Coup 101 course

FORT DEL PILAR, Baguio City—The Philippine Military Academy is not offering a course on "Anti-Coup 101" to dissuade cadets from mounting coup attempts against the government.

Instead, the academy will offer cadets a module on coups, but it will not come out with a full course, said Lt. Col. Michael Morales, assistant chief of the academy staff for educational plans and programs.

"There is no need for a full course. We just need to strengthen existing topics spread in several courses," Morales said.

"These topics include ethics, which teaches professionalism; logic, which teaches critical thinking and identification of fallacies in argumentation; psychology, which includes the ability to strengthen stress without resorting to violence; constitutional law; sociology; economics, which shows the effects of coups to investors' confidence and to a *balut* vendor; and Rizal."

He said the cadets could learn from the sobriety of national hero Jose Rizal in fomenting nationalism and plotting against the Spanish government.

The PMA was started a few months before Rizal's death in 1898 with the establishment of the Academia Militar on Oct. 25, 1898 in Malolos, Bulacan. Fort del Pilar in Loakan here only became the PMA's home after World War II.

After the failed mutiny at the Oakwood Premier luxury apartments in Makati City, politicians called for a review of the PMA curriculum.

From its pre-war technical-oriented curriculum copied from the US Military Academy at West Point, the PMA first had its major change of curriculum in the 1960s. In 1993, it again had another major change with the introduction of the tri-service curriculum.

The first beneficiaries of the 1993 curriculum were the PMA Marilag Class of 1995, whose members formed the crux of the Magdalo group responsible for the takeover of Oakwood on July 27.

Under the tri-service curriculum, a cadet would know whether he would join the Army, Navy or Air Force by the end of the second year and so could concentrate his studies in his chosen service.

Before the tri-service curriculum, a cadet would only know his service during his last year in the academy.

Morales said blaming the PMA curriculum for the Oakwood incident was moot because of the new curriculum that was started last June.

He said courses under the new curriculum were reduced to lighten the load of the cadet. Last year, a cadet would have to take up 175 units.

The Commission on Higher Education only prescribed 146 units in most college course. The PMA has reduced the number of units to a more manageable 149.

Col. Carlos Canilao, head of the PMA Headquarters Academics Group (HAG), denied that the new curriculum was more militaristic.

"Of the 145 or so units in four years of training, only 23 units are for military. No one can say that education here is purely militaristic," he said. *Frank Cimatu, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

DENR blinks, yields narra logs to Bugkalot folk

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya—The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has approved the release to Bugkalot tribe members of about P1 million worth of narra lumber that it earlier seized in an upland village in Alfonso Castañeda town, some 170 km from here.

Roberto Apigo, provincial environment officer, said they were giving out 17.7 cubic meters of the 54 cubic meters of narra lumber that were earlier confiscated from four furniture shops in Barangay Pelaway in July.

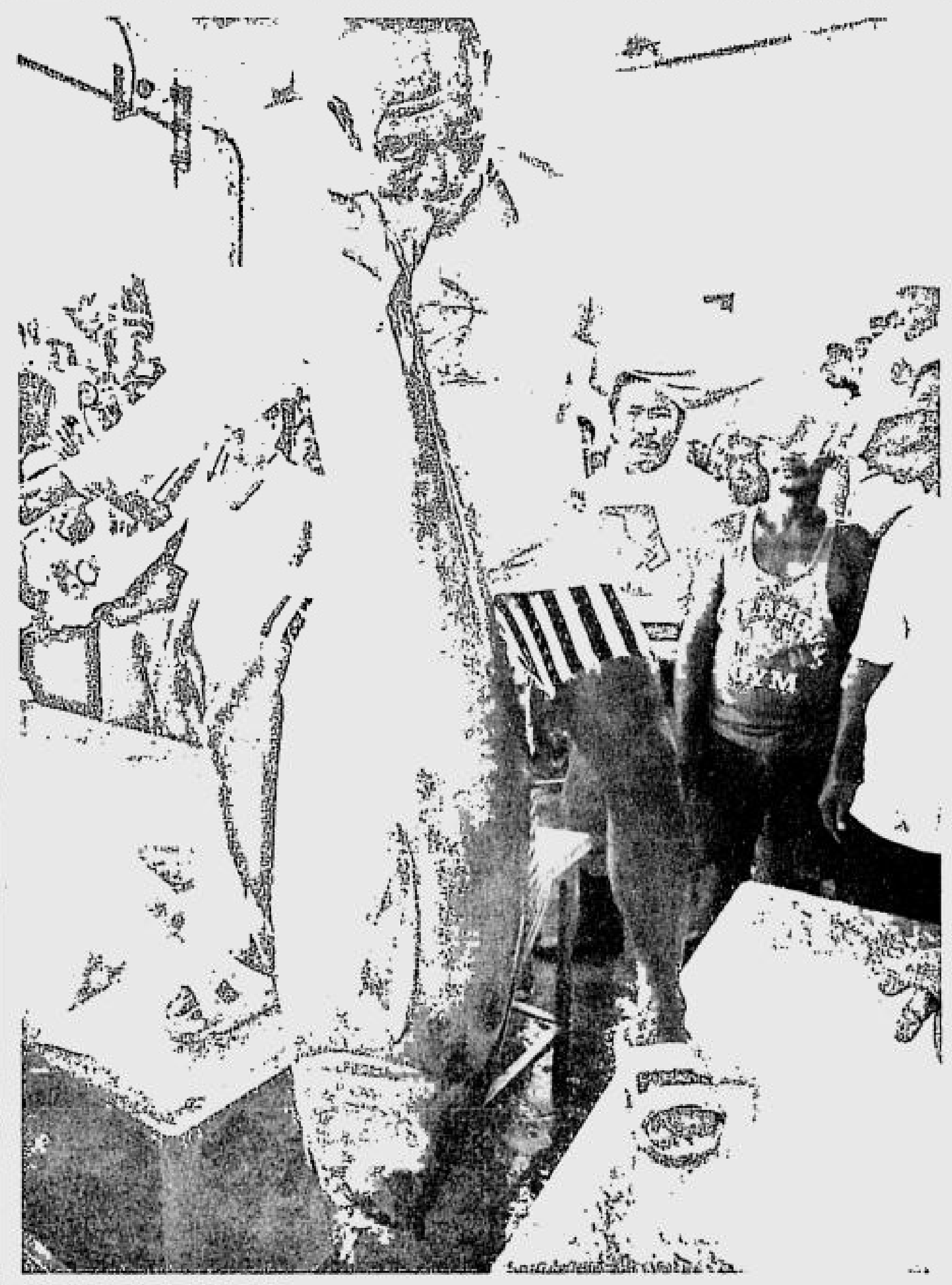
"This (move) is for humanitarian consideration. We just hope that our brother Bugkalot would use it wisely to augment their needs while the government is trying to find alternative means of livelihood for them," Apigo said.

The compromise, he said, was expected to end the custody battle between the DENR and the Bugkalot, which started after tribesmen refused to hand over to authorities last month the seized narra lumber believed to have been illegally cut from the forests of the lower Casecnan Watershed.

In a recent dialogue, Gov. Rodolfo Agbayani and officials of the Bugkalot Ancestral Land Domain of Alfonso Castañeda (Baldaac) have asked the DENR to donate the seized narra lumber to the Bugkalots as their temporary source of livelihood.

Baldaac is a people's organization that was given the country's first Certificate of Ancestral Domain Claim (CADC) program with the DENR to protect the watershed forests of the Casecnan Multi-purpose Power Project (CMIPP).

According to Baldaac officials, the more than 17 cu. m. of narra were still part of the remaining volume that they were allowed to harvest through an Interim Resource Use Permit (IRUP) issued by the DENR. *Melvin Gascon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*



INCREDIBLE SHOW REUTERS

Ruben Jalandoni, 55, a fisherman, lifts a 46-kg yellow fin tuna by biting its tail during the biggest catch tuna contest held at General Santos City's fishport complex.

Campaign for federal system gains ground

DAVAO CITY—Advocates of the federal system are claiming that their campaign has been gaining ground, noting that more and more people now believe it as the solution to the country's major problems, including the Moro rebellion.

Chito Gavino, convenor of the Citizens' Movement for Federal Philippines (CMFP), said that since the launching of the campaign about three years ago, many people have become open to the idea as gleaned from reactions of those in the villages.

The Social Weather Station (SWS), in a survey conducted in May, said 50 percent of the respondents were for federal system while others remained undecided due to lack of information.

Under the federal system, the country will be divided into 10 states—four in Luzon, three in the Visayas and three in Mindanao.

Gavino said they never met opposition from barangay residents whom they have visited as part of their information dissemination work.

"The federal system campaign that started in Davao City already went to other places in Mindanao, Luzon and Visayas," he said.

But Gavino said his group and similar organizations were expecting problems, especially from "intelligent" people who have their own biases and hidden agenda.

But he said they were optimistic that the support would become greater as the campaign went on.

One of the latest recruits to the federalism campaign was President Macapagal-Arroyo, who said during her Wednesday's visit to Brunei that the federal system might help resolve the conflicts in Mindanao.

"I believe that some kind of federal system for the Philippines could help solve the problem of Islamic separatism in the South," the President said in a keynote address before the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC) in Bandar Seri Begawan.

Opposition Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr., one of those pushing for a federal system, said Congress would pursue a Charter change, stressing on a shift to the federal form of government.

He said a "panel of senators and congressmen" has agreed that the shift from a unitary to a federal system, along with the adoption of a parliamentary system, should be the focus of the amendments. *Anthony Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

NPA rebels told: Respect Naga 'zone of peace'

By Juan Escandor Jr.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

NAGA CITY—A member of the city council has appealed to the New People's Army (NPA) to respect the declaration of a "zone of peace" here, a day after a late morning rebel attack on a police post that resulted in the death of one policeman in a mountain barangay, 6 km from the business district.

The "zone of peace, freedom and neutrality" or Zopfan, the first in the country, was jointly initiated and declared on Feb. 2, 1989 by the city government and peace advocates who called themselves "Hearts of Peace" or Hope.

Civil society groups have adopted the "zones of peace" concept in war-ravaged areas in Mindanao.

Councilor Gabriel Bordado said the latest NPA attack has breached the 14-year Zopfan even though it was the first reported armed confrontation between government forces and rebels in this city.

Bordado said the Zopfan advocated the principle of resolving conflicts through continuing dialogue and debate, and not through violent means that, he pointed out, was hinged on the right of citizens to live in peace.

He said the city government and Hope were inspired by an old tradition in Plaza Rizal where every afternoon, old folks debate on issues in public without fear of reprisal, in fully exercising their freedoms of speech and expression.

The plaza, for decades, has been the venue of informal debates and is the equivalent of the Plaza Miranda in Manila in the olden days.

"We want to build on the experience in resolving conflict of ideas and expand the tradition to include the debate on societal transformation for a better society," Bordado said.

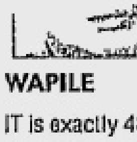
But the councilor admitted that the NPA, the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, was not involved in the agreement and did not register its affirmation of the Zopfan that he and Mayor Jesse Robredo, as city representatives, and lawyer Soliman Santos Jr., Rebecca Torres and Bernadette Gavino of Hope have signed.

The NPA rebels have dismissed the claim of breach of the Zopfan as immaterial and that it cannot be invoked against them because they were not party to its declaration.

Ramona Caceres, public information officer of the NPA unit in Camarines Sur, told the INQUIRER on Wednesday that the Zopfan had "no force and effect on the revolutionary forces as all conditions of the peace process are determined by the agreements and conditions that the government representatives and the National Democratic Front peace panel have agreed upon."

Caceres said the idea of Zopfan "fragmented the organizational and military unity of the revolutionary movement" and could not be adopted by the NPA in Camarines Sur.

Countdown for Justice



WAPILE

IT is exactly 480 days today since Pagadian journalist Edgar Damalerio was slain in cold blood. The principal suspect, police officer Guillermo Wapile, remains at large after escaping while in the custody of the police.

Cory receives Rizal Peace Award

By Bernadette Parco
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—Former President Corazon Aquino is this year's Rizal Peace Awardee of the University of Southern Philippines in Cebu.

She was conferred the honor for her contribution in peace-building and her heroic role during the "People Power" revolution in February 1986 or Edsa I that toppled the 20-year Marcos dictatorship.

Bonifacio Belen, executive director of the USP's Institute of Peace and Values-Centered Leadership, described Aquino as "the long suffering precursor of the restoration of our country's democracy; its courageous defender; and, its ever faithful guardian."

"Her Excellency's contribution to peace is manifested yet more ardently in her respect for the dignity of the human person; and, her profound conviction of the primacy of the spiritual over the material," Belen said during the honoring rites last week.

The Rizal Peace Awards, held at the Eladio Villa Memorial Gymnasium as part of the founding celebration of the USP, was given to three other people in the past.

Dr. Daisaku Ikeda, the spiritual leader of the largest Buddhist lay movement in the world, the Soka Gakkai International, received the award in October 2000.

Other awardees were Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. and Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal.

The honorees were chosen for being active contributors in waging peace in and through their professional work, known among their colleagues and the community-at-large for their integrity, their involvement in peace education, and their deep spiritual bond with the national hero.

"Our Rizal Peace Awardees have all contributed, although in distinct manners, in showing us that non-violence, in the words of Gandhi, is the greatest force at mankind's disposal; even mightier than the mightiest weapons of destruction devised by the ingenuity of man," Belen said.

ROUNDUP

Soldiers, rebels clash

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—Army soldiers battled communist rebels for 30 minutes in Barangay Matan-ag, San Juan, Batangas on Tuesday. Senior Supt. Rodolfo Magtibay, Batangas police director, said the soldiers, belonging to the 4th Special Forces based in Taysan town, clashed with about 15 NPA guerrillas. They recovered two M-16 rifles. Brig. Gen. Efren Orbon, 202nd Infantry Brigade commander, said blood stains were seen along the dirt road that the fleeing rebels took.

Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Rookie cop killed

LUCENA CITY—Two days after being assigned at the local Drug Enforcement Unit, a rookie policeman was shot and killed by a notorious drug pusher who fought arresting lawmen during a raid in Purok Greenhills, Barangay Market View on Tuesday. Supt. Edgar Layon, city police chief, said PO1 Manuel Villa was with a police team when he cornered the suspect, Antonio Villanueva, 24, in an alley. Villanueva grappled for the victim's .38 cal. revolver and when he gained possession of it, shot him in the chest and back of the head.

Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Rebels burn equipment

DAVAO CITY—Some P100 million worth of construction equipment were burned by New People's Army (NPA) rebels who raided two warehouses owned by former Ambassador Roberto Sebastian in New Bataan, Compostela Valley on Monday. Reports reaching the Army's 701st Infantry Division showed that more than 100 heavily armed rebels simultaneously stormed the warehouses of Sebastian Construction Corp. in Barangays San Roque and Bantasa. They disarmed the company guards and burned bulldozers, dump trucks and other heavy equipment. The management of the construction firm has reportedly refused to pay "revolutionary taxes" to the NPA. A few weeks ago, NPA rebels also burned a P50-million relay station of Philippine Communication (Philcom) in Monkayo, Compostela Valley.

Anthony Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau

OFW's death probed

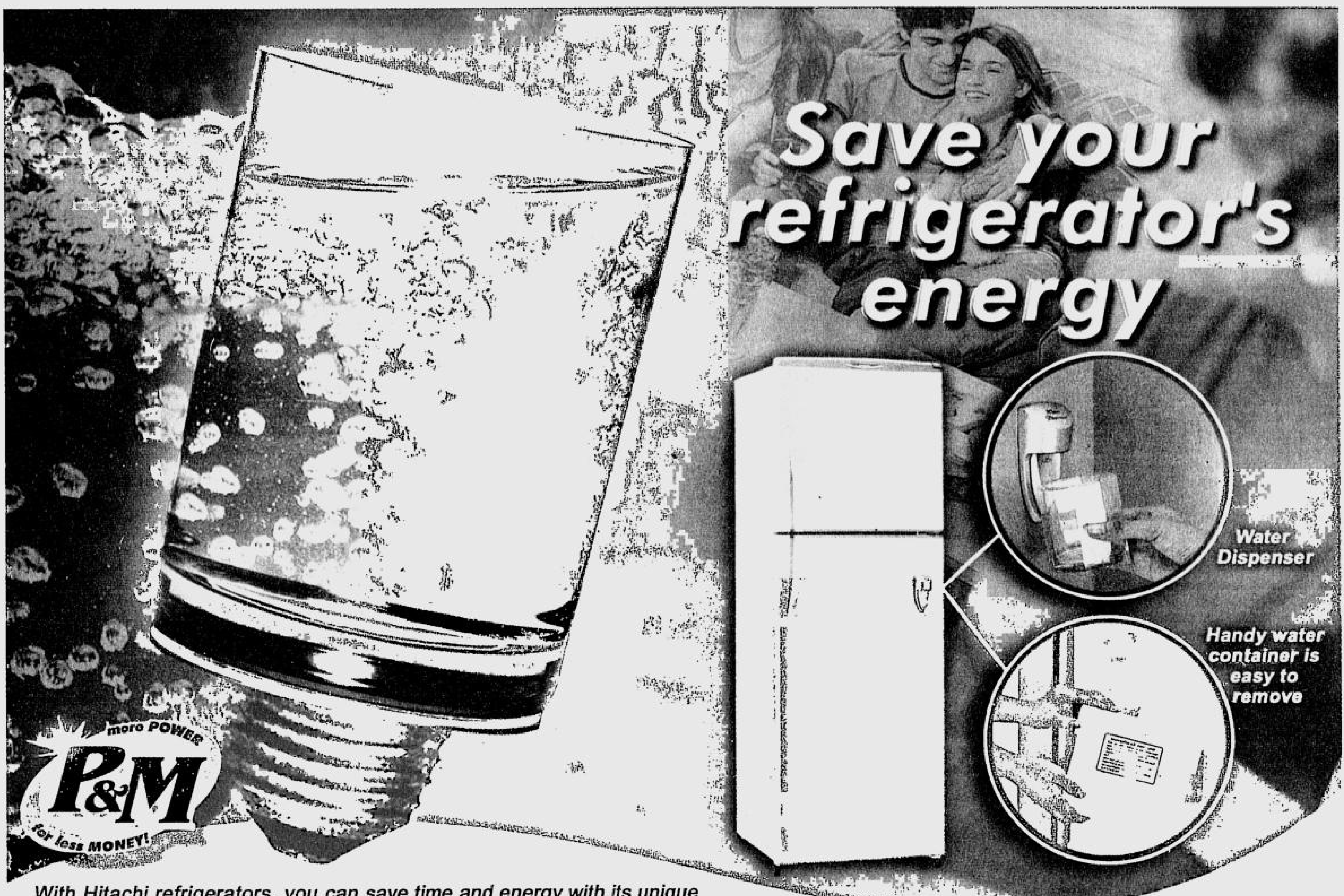
COTABATO CITY—The provincial board of South Cotabato has asked the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration to look into last month's death in Hong Kong of an overseas Filipino worker from Banga town. In a resolution passed on Monday, the board said the death of Joylyn Orbigosa could have been a result of foul play. The Hong Kong police reported that Joylyn jumped from the 9th floor of the condominium building occupied by her Chinese employer, Lao Wee Ji, on Aug. 30. Board member Rodolfo Aguilar said it was "highly improbable" that Joylyn would kill herself on the day she was supposed to return to her hometown. The victim, according to her family, had been complaining of her employer's alleged maltreatment and abuses.

Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Holdup men kill victim

COTABATO CITY—Two men yesterday stabbed and killed a shipping firm official and ran away with about P300,000 in cash. Chief Insp. Ramonito Pachoco, city police Precinct 1 commander, said Cesar Romero, assistant manager of Sulpicio Lines, and his driver, Wilfredo Magbanua, were aboard a company car on their way to a bank here to deposit sales collections when they were fired upon by the holdup men in Barangay Tukananes at around 9:30 a.m. Pachoco said Romero tried to prevent the armed men from getting the money bag, prompting them to repeatedly stab the victim. Romero died before reaching the hospital.

Edwin Fernandez and Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau


Save your refrigerator's energy
Water Dispenser
Handy water container is easy to remove
more POWER
P&M
for less MONEY!

With Hitachi refrigerators, you can save time and energy with its unique external water dispenser. Simply push your glass onto the plastic panel and instantly have a refreshing drink of water. And because you don't have to open the refrigerator door, no heat comes in, so your refrigerator doesn't spend more energy to keep the inside cool.

Plus its no-frost technology and silver-ion deodorizer keep your food fresh longer than in any other refrigerator.

And only Hitachi offers a five year compressor warranty for all its refrigerators, so you can enjoy cool, clean convenience all the time.

HITACHI
Inspire the Next

PHILIPPINE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

Commemorates Its 67th Foundation Day

GREGORIO T. SINGIAN, M.D.
Founder and First President

On September 12, 2003, the Philippine College of Surgeons will observe its 67th Foundation Day.

Thirty five prominent surgeons, headed by Dr. Gregorio T. Singian, founded the Philippine College of Surgeons at the Hospital de San Juan de Dios in Intramuros sixty seven years ago. This association of Filipino surgeons had the vision of pursuit of excellence in the Art & Science of Surgery. The organization they founded has played a key role in uplifting and maintaining high standards of surgical practice in the country.

Today the PCS is more than 2,000 Fellows strong, belonging to various surgical specialties from all over the Philippines. There are now 11 Chapters and 19 Surgical Specialty organizations under its wings.

The PCS is not a medical school or a technological institute, but rather the organization of surgical specialists in our country. Its vision, - to be the leader in Philippine Surgery, and its mission, - to inspire its members to practice surgery with competence, compassion, ethics and social conscience.

The week long celebrations will start on Saturday, September 6, 2003 with a Tree Planting activity coordinated by Bantay Kalikasan of ABS-CBN, to augment the watershed at La Mesa Dam. This year's theme is "A Tree from a Fellow... A Tree for a Filipino". This is now a yearly commitment of the PCS to plant trees at a one-hectare area at La Mesa Dam. The other PCS Chapters will also plant trees all over the Philippines.

To promote more unity, cohesiveness and camaraderie among its Fellows, the PCS will have an Interspecialty Golf Tournament at Forest Hills Golf and Country Club on Monday, September 8, 2003.

On September 10, 2003, Wednesday, the PCS will spearhead a Voluntary Blood Donation activity in cooperation with the Philippine National Red Cross. Some Fellows are expected to donate their own blood. The theme of this humanitarian activity is - "Dugo Ko, Buhay Mo." The following hospitals in Metro Manila wherein blood-letting will be simultaneously held are: East Avenue Medical Center, Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center, Makati Medical Center, MCU-FDTMF Hospital, Quezon City General Hospital, Rizal Medical Center, University of Sto. Tomas Hospital, The Medical City and on September 9, 2003, UP-PGH will hold their blood donation.

Lastly, capping the week-long observance will be a Dinner with the Past Presidents, Specialty Societies Presidents and Chairman of Board of Governors, hosted by the PCS Board of Regents, on Friday, September 12, 2003, at the EDSA Shangri-la Hotel. The poster launching for the Breast Cancer will follow.

BOARD OF REGENTS
Seated, (from left) Rey Melchor F. Santos, MD, Jose C. Gonzales, MD, Regents; Leonardo L. Cua, MD, Secretary; Fernando L. Lopez, MD, President; Edgardo R. Cortez, MD, Vice President; Arturo S. de la Peña, MD, Treasurer; Armando C. Crisostomo, MD, Regent. Standing (from left) Maximo B. Nadala, MD; Stephen Sixto Siguan, MD; Rodolfo L. Nitollama, MD; Josefina R. Almonte, MD; Maximino Dy-R Elgar, MD; Gerardo A. Directo, MD; Vedasto B. Lim, MD; and Maximo H. Simbulan, Jr., MD, Regents.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Seated, (from left) Ramon R. Panlilio, MD, Governor; Antonio B. Ramos, MD, Secretary; Arturo T. Mancao, MD, Vice Chair; Dominador M. Chiong, Jr., MD, Chair; Wilma A. Baltazar, MD; Florencio Q. Lucero, MD, Governors. Standing, (from left) Francis Miles T. de la Rosa, MD; Antonio S. Sy, MD; Samuel D. Bacuteng, MD, Roberto S. Lozada, MD; Rudy G. Medina, MD; Edgardo T. Tan, MD, Governors. Not in picture, Tomas S. Antonio, MD; Gualberto T. Basco, MD; Reynaldo C. de la Cruz, MD; Romeo R. Du, MD; Ramon S. Estrada, MD; Joven B. Mabalatan, MD; Ricardo B. Ruñez, Jr., MD; Antonio G. Santos, MD; and Freddie Y. Sy, MD, Governors.

Tree planting project at the La Mesa Dam Watershed

PCS CHAPTER

Northern Luzon Chapter
Cordillera Chapter
Central Luzon Chapter
Metro Manila Chapter
Southern Tagalog Chapter
Bicol Chapter
Panay Chapter
Negros Occidental Chapter
Cebu-Eastern Visayas Chapter
Northern Mindanao Chapter
Davao Southern Mindanao Chapter

PCS SURGICAL SPECIALTY SOCIETIES

(With Board Examination)

- Philippine Academy of Ophthalmology
- Philippine Orthopaedic Association
- Philippine Society of Otolaryngology -Head & Neck Surgery
- Philippine Urological Association
- Philippine Association of Thoracic & Cardiovascular Surgeons, Inc.
- Philippine Association of Plastic, Reconstructive & Aesthetic Surgeons
- Philippine Society of Colon & Rectal Surgeons
- Philippine Society of Pediatric Surgeons
- Academy of Filipino Neurosurgeons
- Philippine Society of General Surgeons

OTHER PCS SURGICAL SPECIALTY SOCIETIES

- Philippine Society for Vascular Surgery
- Philippine Association of Endoscopic Surgeons
- Philippine Society of Laparoscopic Surgeons
- Philippine Hip and Knee Society
- Surgical Oncology Society of the Philippines
- Philippine Academy for Head and Neck Surgery
- Philippine Spine Society
- Philippine Society for the Surgery of Trauma
- Philippine Society for Transplant Surgeons

PAST PRESIDENTS

†Gregorio T. Singian (1936)
†Baldomero L. Roxas (1937-1944).
†Nicanor Jacinto (1945-1947)
†Januario R. Estrada, Sr. (1948-1949)
†Basilio J. Valdez (1950-1951)
†Guillermo J. Rustia (1952)
†Gumersindo Garcia, Sr. (1953)
†Fortunato S. Guerrero, Sr. (1954-1955)
†Jose Y. Fores (1956-1957)
†Francisco C. de Guzman (1958-1959)
†Jaime E. Laico (1960)
†Luis F. Torres, Jr. (1961-1962)
†Ricardo L. Alfonso (1962-1963)
†Enrique M. Garcia (1963-1964)
Domingo T. Antonio, Jr. (1964)
†Ambrosio F. Tangco (1965)
Romeo H. Gustilo (1966)
†Clemente R. Calma (1967)
Jaime M. Aquino (1968)
†Emilio C. Horilleno (1969)
Pacifico C. Yap (1970)
†Porfirio M. Recio (1971
†Irineo M. Palma (1972)
Antonio C. Oposa (1973)
Enrique S. Filart (1974)
Augusto P. Sarmiento (1975)
†Fidel Z. Cuajunco, Jr. (1976)
†Felipe B. Constantino (1977)
Crisostomo A. Arcilla, Sr. (1978)
Cresencio R. Abes (1979)
Jose M. Pujalte (1980)
†Alfredo T. Ramirez (1981)
Avenilo P. Aventura (1982)
Teodoro P. Nuguid (1983)
George G. Eufemio (1984)
Vicente Q. Arguelles (1985)
Antonio A. Limson (1986)
†Glicerio M. Bustamante (1987)
Faustino T. Domingo, Jr (1988)
Leonardo A. Ona, Jr (1989)
Enrique T. Ona (1990)
Willie N. Lagdameo (1991)
†Renato Q. Sibayan (1992)
Adriano V. Laudico 1993)
Modesto O. Llamas 1994)
Merlin C. Cipriano (1995)
Roman L. Belmonte, Jr (1996)
Florentino C. Doble (1997)
Antonio B. Sison (1998)
Francisco Y. Arcellana, Jr (1999)
Narciso S. Navarro, Jr. (2000)
Alberto B. Roxas (2001)
Ernesto C. Tan (2002)

Lina: Plotters identified

From page A1

for the President, said that per the latest AFP intelligence report, the lingering destabilization attempts were emanating from forces outside the military.

"There is no ongoing coup movement within the military toward toppling the government, but there is concern that there is a move to create an impression of instability by inciting antigovernment sentiment among the public," Saludo said at a briefing.

He likened the supposed destabilization attempts to the Edsa II uprising wherein civil protest actions preceded the military's withdrawal of support from then President Joseph Estrada.

He said the PNP had been placed on high alert to foil not only terrorists but also protest groups that might exploit the situation.

Saludo said the intelligence report was completed after Gen. Narciso Abaya, AFP chief of staff, traveled all over the country to meet with top commanders and their men "to strengthen the commitment of soldiers down the line and ferret out any grievances they have."

He quickly denied that these dialogues were "loyalty checks," saying: "It's like asking whether the Army ensures that its guns are loaded. Every soldier should be loyal to the Constitution."

He said the dialogues were part of the military moves to repel attempts by some sectors to bribe soldiers into supporting destabilization efforts.

Ms Macapagal presided over the five-hour command conference in Camp Aguinaldo, which was attended by National Security Adviser Roilo Golez, Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo, Lina and the military and police brass led by Abaya and PNP Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr.

"She sought the cooperation of the police and military in combating everything," PNP Deputy Director General Edgar Aglipay said in an interview.

The military and police were directed to remain on blue and heightened alert, respectively, after senior security officials confirmed the recruitment of military officers for a fresh destabilization move.

"While we are able to nip things in the bud, it's better to be alert," Golez said in an interview.

Later during a break in the command conference, he told reporters: "I would like to confirm that there is destabilization, but this is a kind that is being counter-acted successfully by the AFP and the PNP.

"There are efforts to recruit some members of the AFP, but this has not been successful because the AFP has remained loyal."

Lina was quick to point out that there was nothing alarming about the reported recent meetings of officials of the Council of Philippine Affairs with some retired generals.

"There's no need to monitor them because they conduct their meetings aboveground," he said. "There is nothing wrong with having meetings; they can continue to hold meetings. When there are acts that are clearly violative of our laws, that's when the law enforcement agencies will move ..."

THE COUNTRY's policemen arrive in full force at the command conference called by the President who is flanked by Interior Secretary Jose Lina and PNP Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. EDWIN BACASMAS

Disinformation

As far as Abaya was concerned, the destabilization move has not gone beyond a "disinformation campaign."

He cited as an instance a text message that had been circulating to the effect that military generals and enlisted personnel had been offered P10 million and P50,000, respectively, to join a coup. And yet, he said, he had yet to come across a general or a soldier who was offered money for such an enterprise.

Abaya said the destabilization was taking the form of text messages, "intrigues and disinformation."

"The object is to weaken and drive a wedge between the AFP and, let's say, the other groups within the AFP," he said.

But he was quick to add that a coup attempt would never succeed under his watch. "I will not hesitate to use the full might of the AFP to crush any attempt to grab power," he told reporters.

Consolidation

During a break in the conference, the President explained that she saw her new role "as a means of leading a speedy consolidation process."

By consolidation, she said, she meant strengthening the chain of command, rationalizing military resources and sharpening the soldiers' will to fight.

"Strengthening the chain of command means ensuring the durability of every link from headquarters to field, from top to bottom, from combat to peacemaking," she said. "Policies must be translated into clear command directives understood at the lowest level."

In the rationalization of resources, Ms Macapagal stressed the need "to match soldiers, weapons and training to every specific task," move logistics to the field, and "change the procedural system that breeds corruption."

"Sharpening the will to fight has to do with morale and tenacity, education and indoctrination. We need more dialogue across the echelons," she added.

The President wanted to know how things were run at the Department of National Defense, according to Lt. Gen. Roy Kyamko, chief of the Southern Command.

"We discussed a lot of policies in the [AFP] and how these relate with the Philippine National Police," said Defense Undersecretary Edgardo Batenga.

He said the President was concerned about policies on peace and order, and on illegal drugs.

Batenga also said the President neither issued new appointments nor announced a revamp at the DND.

"She wanted a clear picture on certain policies, especially how these relate with the PNP," Kyamko said.

'Chismis'

In Cebu City, two retired generals, Santos Gabison Jr. and Edgardo Abenina, dismissed reports that other retired generals were meeting with politicians to hatch a new coup plot.

Abenina, who joined the coup attempt against the Aquino administration in 1987, became angry when asked about the reported recruitment involving retired generals.

He said retired generals had no capability to launch a coup against the administration and described the alleged plot as *chismis* (gossip) being spread in barbershops.

Asked about the identity of those spreading coup rumors, Abenina said these people had personal interest in the government—"those who want to make big money, so they can be near decision-makers and gain more influence for their personal interest."

"They are using the country as launching pad of their personal interest," he said.

Gabison also said the alleged plot involving the retired generals was mere "rumor."

He said his "mistahs" (classmates) and other retired generals had not approached him about the supposed plot. But he said he had no plans of joining even if asked.

Any attempt to oust the President will only worsen our economy, he said.

The AFP Central Command (Centcom) also assured the public that the alleged recruitment had not reached the Visayas.

Still, the Centcom was put on heightened alert status following the reported destabilization moves, said Col. Nestor Anonuevo, chief of the Civil Military Operations and Cooperation.

The PNP is also on alert status, said Sr. Supt. Cecil Ezra Sandalo, Cebu City police director.

Sandalo said all leaves for policemen had been put on hold except in emergency cases. *With reports from Fe B. Zamora, INQ7.net and Jhunnex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau*

Military studies Gen X phenomenon

By Martin P. Marfil

THE PHENOMENON called Generation X—or those born in the 1970s and have different values from their elders—is now a factor in coup attempts.

Navy Capt. Emilio Marayag, Armed Forces assistant deputy chief of staff for personnel, said the military was studying the phenomenon so that the system would be able to cope.

"Members of this generation [do not want to stay] in a single career in their lifetime. And they are adventurists; they like to explore other fields," Marayag said in an interview yesterday at the Manila Pavilion, venue of a breakfast forum where panelists discussed corruption and the lifestyle check in the government.

Corruption was one of the issues raised by the Magdalo group of soldiers who mounted the July 27 mutiny.

"With this [mutiny], we think that our organization ... has in its midst people belonging to Generation X," Marayag said. "We see it as a challenge because we would like to upgrade, enhance our existing systems."

Marayag said members of Generation X had "high expectations" and "do not really care if in the future their careers would be affected."

"This phenomenon is already in the AFP, and it's a sign that we have to change our ways," he said.

Marayag said they were able to determine through a brief analysis that there was a big difference between the coup attempts in the 1980s and the one on July 27.

In the 1980s, all ranks—from privates to generals—were influenced into supporting the coup attempts, he said.

"Interestingly, this time, they recruited only up to captain. So you see a generation gap," he added.

Some officials are having difficulty explaining why soldiers would like to leave their careers when they are now some of the better-paid government employees, Marayag said.

"This Generation X, they have different expectations from the baby boomers like me," he said. "That is a good signal for everybody in the government, and even the family itself, to look into the new phenomenon. Hopefully, we can tame adventurism."

One of the changes being considered in the recruitment of soldiers involves existing psychiatric examinations and interviews, Marayag said.

Civil society closing ranks to defend democracy

From page A1

vigil at the Edsa Shrine on the eve of the July 27 mutiny after being told by President Macapagal-Arroyo that a coup attempt was in the offing.

Kompil, another such umbrella organization, was active in the ouster of then President Joseph Estrada.

Spontaneous

Pagsanghan said his group's latest action was "spontaneous" and brought about by troubling events, such as the opposition's call on the President to resign.

He said destabilizing forces were taking advantage of exposés on corruption in the government to fuel public anger.

"The country's institutions must be allowed to work. Let justice take its course," he said.

Dan Songco, a convenor of the K1230 Movement, said the group had confirmed that the urban poor were being recruited for mass actions against the government.

"Quite obviously, they're using [Sen. Panfilo Lacson's exposé against the President's husband] to enrage the people," he said.

Songco said that "they—the opposition, the Magdalo soldiers—are presenting themselves as the alternative," and that "the middle forces have to speak up."

But like Pagsanghan, he said it was difficult to pinpoint the groups or personalities behind the supposed destabilization attempts.

Mudslinging

The Bangon Pilipino Movement (Bangon), an alliance of religious, business and working-class groups led by the El Shaddai, is preparing an appeal for an end to the "political mudslinging and infighting" that, it said, was keeping the economy in the doldrums and preventing the government from focusing on its work.

Bangon co-chair Donald Dee, also vice president of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), said the alliance viewed the muckraking in Congress, as reported in the media, as more destabilizing than the coup rumors.

"All talk of destabilization should be taken with a grain of salt because we believe in the President's ability to take care of these things," he told the INQUIRER.

"We think the biggest concern now is the political mudslinging and infighting that have turned the nation's attention away from more pressing matters."

Dee said Bangon was wooing the Iglesia ni Cristo to join its appeal. The INC had earlier clarified that it was a mere observer in the alliance.

The other members of Bangon are the PCCI, Federation of Filipino Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Federation of Philippine Industries, Employers Confederation of the Philippines, Trade Union Congress of the Philippines, Bishops Businessmen Conference, and UP Center for Labor and Grassroots Initiatives.

Dee said that in its planned appeal, Bangon will urge politicians to file appropriate charges in the courts instead of using Congress as a venue for character assassination.

He said the Senate investigation on First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo's alleged "Jose Pidal" accounts had stirred up concerns in the banking system, particularly among the banks that Lacson had named.

He also said Bangon would call on the political hopefuls to wait for the campaign period to start before pushing their candidacies. He added that all candidates should run on the basis of a genuine platform, not on popularity.

Bangon, which excludes politicians from its roster, was formed early this year to represent what El Shaddai's Mike Velarde called "the silent majority" weary of politicians' unfulfilled promises and petty bickering.

Gossip

Sen. John Osmeña bluntly said everyone should just "shut up" for the moment.

He said that instead of escalating their word wars, politicians of all stripes should wait for the 2004 elections to decide any leadership change.

"All this talk [about destabilization] is mere rumor. Even Malacañang is peddling gossip ... to cover up for the Pidal [issue]. The military is also engaged in gossip to frighten Malacañang and Congress," he said.

Osmeña is convinced that the political opposition was behind "some rumors."

"They have their own motives [to do so], he said, adding:

"Let's all shut up. [Anyway] it's only eight months [before the elections]."

Senate President Franklin Drilon suspects that the supposed destabilization efforts were aimed at preventing the visit next month of US President George W. Bush.

"It is to the interest of those who wish to destabilize this government to prevent the visit of President Bush. They will do everything to create an uncertain environment in our country and influence [Bush] ... not to come over," he told reporters.

Drilon urged the public to be calm, and said everyone would suffer if the latest supposed destabilization plot succeeded.

"The faith of our people in our democratic system will depend upon how strong we support these institutions of democracy," he said.

Sen. Joker Arroyo admitted that the rumors were "disturbing."

"But the question is who benefits from destabilizing us, and who loses if there is destabilization," he said.

Warning on Copa

Opposition Sen. Rodolfo Biazon cautioned the public against being "taken in" by those "trying to generate people movements like rallies."

He said he was particularly concerned with the recent activities of the Council of Philippine Affairs, including its march on banks in Makati and its meetings with retired generals.

Biazon wondered whether there was a deliberate attempt to duplicate the conditions that led to Estrada's ouster in January 2001, in which, he said, Copa was active.

But Sen. Edgardo Angara said the alleged destabilization plot was "more propagandizing than anything else."

He said it was just part of Malacañang's attempts to gain public sympathy, because "ordinary people tend to rally behind a leader under siege." *With reports from Christine O. Avendaño and Michael Lim Ubac*

Ombudsman presses graft case vs Reyes

From page A1

Reyes following his resignation. Reyes resigned on Aug. 29 amid the continuing destabilization efforts against the Macapagal administration.

Although Reyes is no longer liable for an administrative complaint, the Office of the Ombudsman should pursue the probe because Reyes may be liable for a criminal offense, the PAGC said.

Reyes is accused of building a mansion worth P10 million (although some say P50 million) in Fort Bonifacio in Taguig. He said he financed the construction with a loan he and his sons obtained from a bank.

The government might court the "fury" of the public should it give the impression that justice does not apply to all people, according to Gervacio.

Gervacio said discontinuing the investigation of Reyes would be "unfair" to certain officials of the Bureau of Customs, of the Bureau of Internal Revenue and of the Department of Public Works and Highways, who are being investigated for allegedly living beyond their means.

Gervacio said stopping the probe would be costly to the former defense secretary because the media had already portrayed him as someone guilty of amassing ill-gotten wealth.

"Angie Reyes should be vindicated and the only way to do that is to continue the investigation," he said.

Barbers' mansions

Another official of the Office of the Ombudsman said the agency was pursuing the investigation of the mansions of Sen. Robert Barbers.

Assistant Ombudsman Ernesto Nocos said the agency was monitoring newspaper reports indicating that Barbers could have amassed ill-gotten wealth that enabled him to buy houses in Baguio, Manila and in his home province.

"We are going to look into that if a complaint is filed in our office," he said.

BIR employees are opposing the lifestyle check.

"They (Malacañang) want to show that they are implementing a widespread drive against corruption but, in truth, they are covering up for Jose Pidal," Elmer Lee, president of the BIR Concerned Employees Association, said.

Opposition Sen. Panfilo Lacson claims that Jose Pidal is the assumed name being used by First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo to launder at least P260 million.

"The lifestyle check is a grave hypocrisy being peddled by (Finance Secretary Isidro) Camacho because his consultant (Rene) Bañez is trying to get back his credibility ... When he was the BIR head, he granted tax refunds, exemptions and a lot of benefits to big business," Lee said at a breakfast forum in the Manila Pavilion.

He admits that corruption does exist in the BIR but this pales in comparison to corruption involving Malacañang. The real "thieves" are those who represent big business and are being coddled by Malacañang, according to Lee.

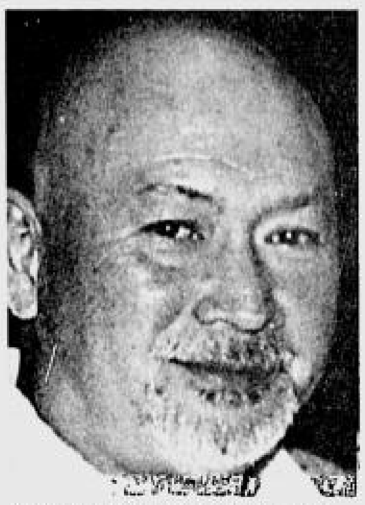
"For example, the Makati Business Club ... why is it pushing for the passage of the National Revenue Authority, a bill that does not put in any revenue measure at all. Rather, it is a bill that is intended to protect foreign interests and big business so that they will not pay taxes in the Philippines," Lee said.

"Corruption starts at Malacañang and leads back to Malacañang," he said.

Romy Pagulayan, Bureau of Customs Employees Association president, said legislators were also tainted with corruption because of their pork barrel.

He also noted that those with the discretionary powers to waive fees could be found at higher levels. "Only big business and bureacrat-capitalists benefit," he said.

Senate to reopen probe of $2-M extort case vs Perez



ESCALER: Investment banker

ARCEO: Banker and Perez's brother-in-law

From page A1

quiry into the bribery charge against Perez, which was part of its investigation of anomalies in the contract of the Argentine firm Industrias Metalurgicas Pescarmona C. A. (Impsa) for the rehabilitation of the Caliraya-Botocan-Kalayaan (CBK) hydroelectric plant.

Osmeña described the deal as "one of the most notorious independent power producer contracts on record."

Former President Joseph Estrada testified before the committee in March 2001 that his former presidential adviser on Latin American Affairs, Jimenez, had offered him $14 million to approve the Impsa contract. Of the $14-million bribe, $2 million was paid to Perez, $1 million was allocated for the "boys" at the National Power Corp., and $4 million was paid to Malacañang, according to Sen. Panfilo Lacson.

In November last year, Jimenez accused Perez of extorting money from him a few days after Macapagal-Arroyo came into power in 2001. Jimenez said Perez demanded that he execute an affidavit against the cronies of Estrada. The affidavit, Jimenez said, would be used against the cronies if they would not support Ms Macapagal in the presidential election in 2004.

Jimenez said he refused to do so. But he said Escaler came up with a proposition that he should just pay up $2 million, to which, Perez agreed.

Osmeña said that "discreet" inquiries with Hong Kong authorities found that $1.7 million was forwarded to an account at EFG Private Bank of Switzerland. The bank, however, refused to identify the owner of the account.

"Thus, we faced a blank wall—just like the Senate may be facing a blank wall today on the stonewalling of local banks holding various Jose Pidal accounts," the senator said. He was referring to the refusal of certain banks to give information on bank accounts allegedly owned by First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo because of the Bank Secrecy Law.

Osmeña said he had to ask the Senate to subpoena the DFA to turn over the Holtkamp report, which, according to him, came about as a result of the global fight against money laundering.

He disclosed the following information about the request of Swiss authorities to Manila.

- On Dec. 12, 2002, the Money Laundering Reporting Office Switzerland of the Federal Police Office passed information to the Prosecution of the Swiss Confederation concerning Perez and the others.
- On March 5, 2001, EFG Private Bank SA, Geneva, opened Account No. 338'118 in the name of Rosario Salvador Perez and Ramon Castillo Arceo, both of whom issued a power of attorney in favor of Hernando Benito Perez, husband of Rosario.
- The account was closed on Oct. 31, 2001.
- On March 27, 2001, EFG Private Bank SA, Geneva branch, opened Account No. 338'128 in the name of Ernest de Leon Escaler. The bank opened another account, No. 338'372, at the request of Escaler but in the name of Lucky Clover Enterprises Ltd. Someone authorized by Capcept Ltd. signed the documents for the opening of this account while the company EFG Financial Advisory Pie Ltd. tied up the banking transaction.
- Documents relative to the opening of Account No. 338'118 of Rosario Perez and Arceo said Escaler was the "center of influence of EFG Financial Advisory in the Philippines."
- Accounts were opened in the name of the same holders at EFG Private Bank SA, Guernsey branch.
- Pointing out Philippine news stories that these people were involved in the bribe scandal, it was confirmed that Account No. 338'118 received $1 million from the account of Escaler at the Coutts (Schweiz) AG Hong Kong.
- The account of Rosario Perez and Arceo at EFG Private Bank, Guernsey branch, was credited on March 2001 with the amount of $699, 985.

JIMENEZ: On verge of extradition to the United States, the Manila congressman accused Perez of extorting money from him.

ESTRADA: He said Jimenez offered him $14 million to approve Impsa contract.

- The amounts were the object of different investments and inter-account movements.
- With the closure of Account No. 338'118, Account No. 338'128 received funds involving several transfers.
- Two important transfers took place from this last account in favor of Swordtail Ltd., the holder of an account at the BNP-Hong Kong.
- An amount of $833,000 went back from the Swordtail Ltd. account to the Lucky Clover Enterprises Ltd account.

Holtkamp said Swiss authorities were asking the DOJ's help to obtain the "confirmation or nullification of the opening of a criminal procedure in the Philippines against Hernando and Rosario Perez, Arceo and Escaler."

In his speech, Osmeña accused Justice Undersecretary Merceditas Gutierrez of obstructing justice "in the most arrogant manner" after she was quoted as saying that the DOJ would not provide help to Swiss investigators.

Osmeña asked the Senate committee on government corporation to proceed with its investigation and to look into the "series of omission committed by DFA and DOJ officials."

Malaysia bans text-a-divorce

From page A1

The warning marks the latest move by the government to discourage the use of electronic messages to initiate divorce proceedings in this predominantly Muslim Southeast Asian country.

Islamic law generally accepts that a husband has divorced his wife if he announces his intention to do so to her and the decision is ratified by a cleric.

The process for a wife to divorce her husband, however, is more difficult.

Noh Omar, parliamentary secretary for the prime minister's department, said the government had ordered religious affairs officials to take legal action against men who declare their divorces by phone text messages, faxes or e-mails and subsequently try to obtain divorce certificates without having undergone proceedings in an Islamic court.

"They must be prosecuted, in order to ensure that husbands do not try to divorce their wives out of court without abiding by proper procedures," Noh told The Associated Press.

Offenders face up to six months in prison and a maximum fine of 1,000 ringgit (US$256) if found guilty, Noh said.

Nearly two-thirds of Malaysia's 24 million people are Muslims, who are subject to a system of moderate Islamic laws as well as secular laws.

A Malaysian religious court's ruling in July that a mobile phone text message was a valid notice of intent to divorce infuriated women's groups, which insisted the procedure was demeaning.

Some Islamic scholars and government ministers said it tarnished the religion's image.

Officials subsequently said they would amend Malaysia's Islamic laws to make the rules on the first notification of divorce more strict and explicitly exclude the use of text messages and other new technology. *AP*

After three years at the summit, you're bound to feel a bit high.

ENJOY THESE TREATS
AS WE CELEBRATE
THE 3RD ANNIVERSARY
OF CEBU PACIFIC'S SUMMIT CLUB!

THREE YEARS three cheers!

- *For 3 weeks, Summit Club members who fly between August 1 to 21 earn TRIPLE their PremiuMiles!*
- *For 3 months, all Summit Club members who fly between August 1 to October 31 are automatically assigned a raffle entry for a chance to win a Sun Cellular pre-paid pack Sony Ericsson T300, a National Bookstore wall clock, Travel Club luggage, or a subscription to Yes!/Preview Magazine!*

See flyers for details.

Summit Many Happy Returns

sun CELLULAR National Book Store The Travel Club SUMMIT
Tel. (632) 638-1746 Toll Free 1-800-1888-2582

CEBU PACIFIC
WE'RE GOING YOUR WAY.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3228, Series of 2003

Introducing Casual and Contemporary Style by MEJORE
Balance and Simplicity for your Home

SUPPORT Buy FILIPINO PRODUCTS

MEJORE WOODWORKS INCORPORATED
IDC Bldg. E.Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Libis, Quezon City
636-7030 / 637-5976 E-mail: mejore@i-manila.com.ph
MON-FRI 9 am-7pm, SAT 9am-6pm, SUN 10am-4pm
Accept all Credit Cards and Deferred Payment

Alex Carlos: Manipulator ...

From page A1

on Tuesday, he pointed to Carlos as the one who helped him draw up the charges against Arroyo.

Carlos is the president of the shipping service firm North Front Inc. and the husband of Marikina City Councilor Lea Carlos. He is a well-known breeder of fighting cocks.

Despite several attempts, the INQUIRER has yet to talk to Carlos.

According to Mahusay's lawyer, Alfredo Villamor, his client left Arroyo's LTA Inc. in February 2002 after a falling-out with Arroyo and his personal accountant, Vicky Toh.

In December, Mahusay was introduced to Carlos by Dy, Mahusay's longtime friend.

Villamor said Carlos learned of Mahusay's resentment' toward Arroyo and Toh, and his "intention to get even."

Carlos then offered Mahusay a job as a helper in his farm in Rizal province.

A few weeks later, Villamor said, Carlos asked Mahusay if he was still mad at Arroyo and Toh.

"When he said yes, Carlos told him to prepare his story and that he will be brought to Sen. (Aquilino) Pimentel," Villamor said.

Sophisticated client

He said Mahusay also gathered items he had picked up while he was still connected with LTA, including a bank statement of Toh's account with Union Bank-Perea branch and three photos, one of which showed Arroyo and Toh standing beside each other.

"He was sophisticated enough to think of a way to project Mike Arroyo as being engaged in corruption using Vicky Toh's account, and used the photo to show that the two had a relationship," Villamor said of Mahusay.

Sometime during the first quarter of this year, Carlos brought Mahusay to Pimentel and made his employee tell his story to the senator.

Pimentel, Villamor said, refused to entertain Mahusay's story for two reasons: He was merely out for vengeance and he lacked documents to back up his allegations.

Mahusay then resumed work in the farm.

Villamor said Carlos went back to Mahusay in June, this time bearing four "additional documents." These were photocopies of a Pidal check, a Kelvin Tan check, a Kelvin Tan bank statement and a Thomas Toh bank statement.

SEN. Panfilo Lacson secretly shows Eugenio Mahusay Jr. a photograph which the lawmaker described as "mahalay (lewd)" during a Senate hearing on the "Jose Pidal" case on Tuesday. JESS YUSON

Carlos allegedly told Mahusay to prepare his story—this time for Lacson's ears.

'More detailed, believable'

"So Udong prepared a draft and put everything in writing this time. After his experience with Pimentel, he wanted his story to be more detailed and more believable," Villamor said.

In the draft, Mahusay mentioned only three accounts—those of Jose Pidal, Vicky Toh and Lualhati Foundation—all with Union Bank-Perea branch.

The draft also mentioned the names of several persons whom Mahusay remembered as having frequented the LTA Building, Villamor said.

His client made it a point to include then military intelligence chief. Brig. Gen. Victor Corpus, "so that Lacson will be interested."

Villamor said Mahusay never mentioned Corpus during the meeting with Pimentel.

Added details

Sometime in mid-July, Carlos, Dy and Mahusay presented the draft to Banayo and Lacson. The meeting took place at the Solid Mills Building in Makati City.

Villamor said that on July 21, Carlos and Mahusay went back to Solid Mills and were shown a formal statement supposedly based on the draft for Mahusay's signature.

"Udong went over it and noticed that there were many added details—like the account numbers and names which were not in his draft," Villamor said.

When Mahusay pointed these out to Carlos, the latter allegedly assured him that there would be witnesses and documents to support them.

Mahusay did not have second thoughts about signing the prepared statement "because the additions made his story more harmful to Arroyo and Toh."

"*Napasubo na rin kasi siya* (He was already deep into it) so he signed it voluntarily, and also because he was about to achieve his (objective)," Villamor said.

Villamor said Mahusay last saw Carlos when the latter had him checked in at the Edsa Horizon Hotel in Mandaluyong City on Aug. 15. Mahusay stayed there until Aug. 19, a day after Lacson delivered his first privileged speech against Arroyo. Mahusay was then moved by private bodyguards to a safe house.

Rolling store trucks

Carlos, a source at the National Food Authority and a rice dealer said, invested heavily in the purchase of trucks that were rented out to distributors of NFA rice during the Estrada administration.

"You could say that the rolling store concept was his brainchild," said a source, adding that Carlos was known to be close to Estrada's friend Edno Joson, a former NFA head.

Carlos reportedly bought 150 to 200 trucks, costing less than a million pesos each. Under an agreement with the NFA, Carlos was to rent out the trucks at P2,100 per day. The contract was to last for five years, but was terminated after the Macapagal administration came to power.

A congressman had earlier said that Carlos was now using the trucks for the Gloria Labandera rolling store project.

Deposed President Joseph Estrada yesterday denied knowing Carlos personally, saying the latter was closer to Joson.

"I'm the President, I can't be dealing with all these things," he said in English and Filipino when asked about the deal Carlos cut with the NFA during his administration.

Thank you for making us No. 1

FOR WINNING TWO MAJOR AWARDS!

Sterling PAPER

"Definitely High Quality, Definitely Sterling"

"Most Outstanding Manufacturer of Paper Products" Awardee 2003
18th Annual National Consumers Excellence Awards

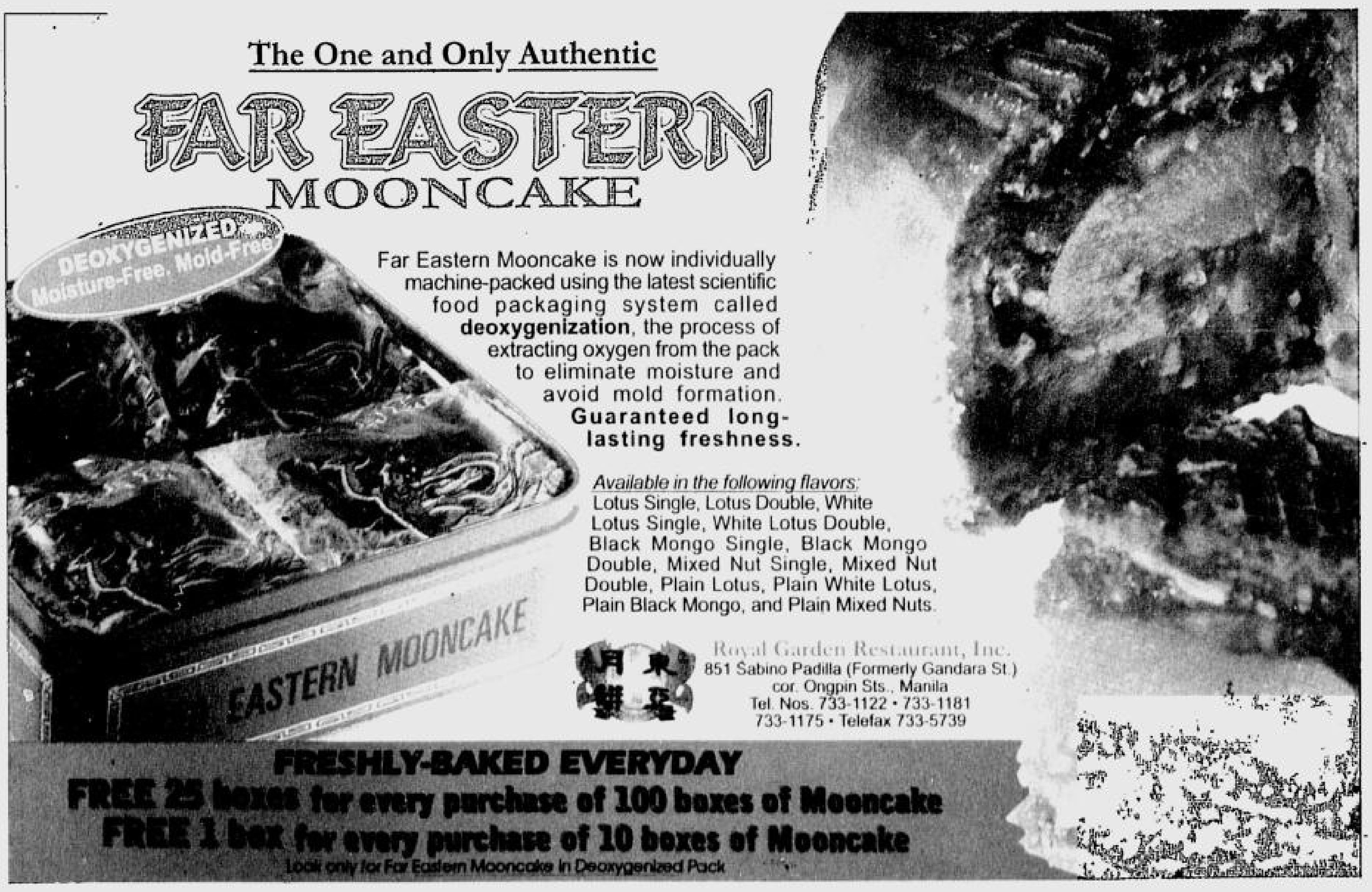
"Top Paper Products Manufacturer" Awardee 2003
19th Annual People's Choice Award

Through the years, Sterling Notebooks and all other Sterling paper products have always stood for quality and best value for your money---the finest quality paper, strict manufacturing processes, pioneering designs. To us, it's the norm.

To the judges of the various product excellence award-giving bodies, it's the winning form.

CONGRATULATIONS!
from:

KIDDIBIRD SDN BHD
KYOEI ORIONS BELT SP-WORLD TRADING LTD.
Arnold ARNOLD ASSOCIATES LTD.
Paramount® from the heart
ReproLit GmbH International Copyright Marketing
PT. KINGSTONE INDONESIA
Apartment Pesona Bahari Lantai Dasar T 07, Jl. Mangga Dua Abdad, Jakarta 10730, Indonesia
Telp.: (62-21) 6008132/ 33/ 34, 6126934/ 40, Fax . (62-21) 6008129/ 6126331. e-mail ksi@cbn.net.id
Fun with NIKKI products
LEE & SONS ENTERPRISE SDN. BHD.



The One and Only Authentic
FAR EASTERN MOONCAKE

DEOXYGENIZED Moisture-Free, Mold-Free

Far Eastern Mooncake is now individually machine-packed using the latest scientific food packaging system called **deoxygenization**, the process of extracting oxygen from the pack to eliminate moisture and avoid mold formation. **Guaranteed long-lasting freshness.**

Available in the following flavors:
Lotus Single, Lotus Double, White Lotus Single, White Lotus Double, Black Mongo Single, Black Mongo Double, Mixed Nut Single, Mixed Nut Double, Plain Lotus, Plain White Lotus, Plain Black Mongo, and Plain Mixed Nuts.

Royal Garden Restaurant, Inc.
851 Sabino Padilla (Formerly Gandara St.)
cor. Ongpin Sts., Manila
Tel. Nos. 733-1122 • 733-1181
733-1175 • Telefax 733-5739

FRESHLY-BAKED EVERYDAY
FREE 25 boxes for every purchase of 100 boxes of Mooncake
FREE 1 box for every purchase of 10 boxes of Mooncake
Look only for Far Eastern Mooncake in Deoxygenized Pack

2 Abus arrested for Basilan kidnap

By Gerald G. Lacuarta

THE JUSTICE department yesterday announced the arrest of two members of the Abu Sayyaf bandit group who allegedly took part in the March 20, 2000 mass kidnap of school children and public school teachers and the killing of Fr. Rhoel Gallardo in Basilan.

Wearing blue detainee shirts, Salasim Suhud, alias "Abu Talib," 29, and his brother Asirin Suhud, alias "Popong," 20, were presented to the media by Justice Undersecretary Jose Calida in Manila. They carried a P1-million reward each.

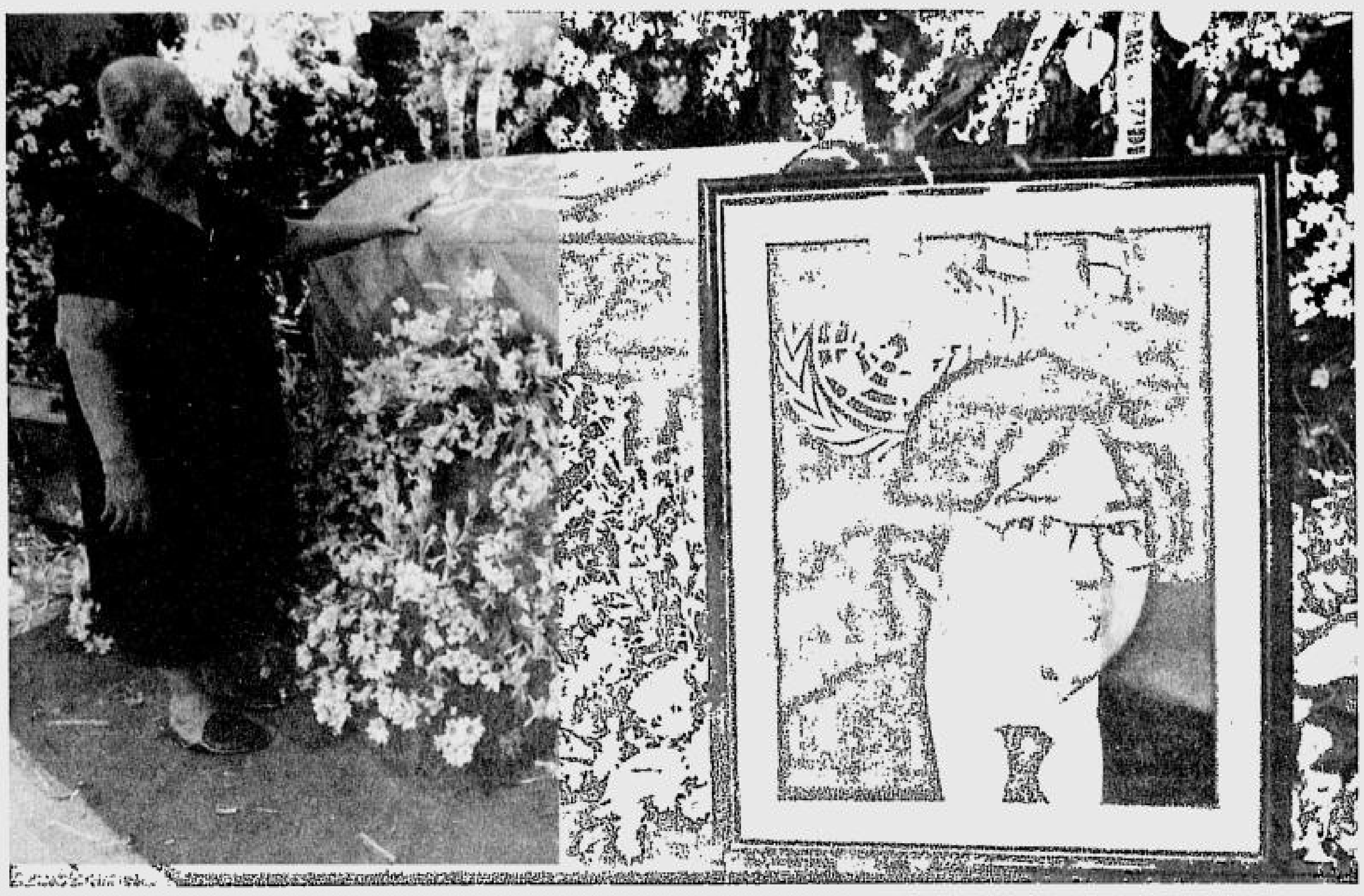
Calida, in charge of the government's Witness Protection Program, said the Suhud brothers were among the "guards" of the 52 hostages who were snatched by the bandits in barangay Tumahubong, Sinangkapan town.

On April 19, 2000, after negotiations failed, two of the teachers, Dante Uban and Nelson Enriquez, were ordered beheaded by Abu Sayyaf leader Khadafy Janjalani and spokesperson Abu Sabaya as a "birthday gift" to then President Joseph Estrada.

While some of the young hostages were then freed in exchange for food, the priest and three other teachers—Anabelle Mendoza, Editha Lumame, and Ruben Democrito—were later tortured and executed. Their bodies were recovered after an encounter between government soldiers and bandits on May 3.

Filipino UN worker given hero's burial in Bulacan

From page A1



LETICIA Buenaventura touches the sealed casket of her son Ranilo, a UN employee who died in a massive bomb blast that hit the UN headquarters in Baghdad last month. Ranilo's body was taken to his home in Malolos, Bulacan, for burial yesterday. JOAN BONDOC

when a cement truck packed with explosives hit the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad on Aug. 19. He and 22 other UN workers were killed in the biggest attack yet on the world body.

When Buenaventura, his family's breadwinner, was laid to rest here on Thursday, his relatives and townmates hailed him as an "antiterrorism hero."

The city government planned to pass a resolution recognizing him an "antiterrorism hero" because he died in the line of duty in the Iraqi war zone. Earlier, it had arranged a *luksang parangal* (necrological service) for him, attended by officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs, Gov. Josefina de la Cruz and other local officials.

Buenaventura, an administrative official of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (Unocha), started working at the UN headquarters in New York in 1989. In 1997, he was assigned in Erbil (a Kurdish autonomous region).

In June, he was transferred to a temporary mission to Baghdad to coordinate the UN's oil-for-food program, a project under the UN Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator in Iraq (Unochi) that gives the war-torn country an opportunity to sell oil to finance UN-mandated activities.

Buenaventura was serving the office of top UN envoy to Iraq, Sergio Vieira de Mello, who also died in the bombing.

The Filipino worker's remains were flown to Manila on Monday from a hospital in Jordan where all the casualties of the attack were transferred.

Mayor Danilo Domingo led city officials, relatives and friends in a 12-vehicle convoy to bring the body home.

Earlier, Buenaventura's brothers, Donato and Wilfredo, flew to Jordan with the assistance of the United Nations to identify the body of their brother. They were the last to see his remains.

"The casket was half-open. We were able to see him from waist up. There were bruises on his face. The family decided to have a closed casket during the wake," Donato said in Filipino.

Story of hard work

Buenaventura's was a story of hard work and selflessness. Born and raised in Malolos, his family described him as a "quiet man."

"He doesn't talk a lot, he is very simple," said his sister, Melinda, 51.

The fifth in a brood of nine, he knew what hard work was at a young age. While completing a business degree at the Philippine College of Commerce (now Polytechnic University of the Philippines), he worked as a clerk in San Beda College and later as an employee of the human resource office of La Tondeña Philippines.

After graduation and a couple of jobs later, he started working abroad in 1979 at Bechtel Co. in Saudi Arabia as an executive secretary for 10 years. When the chance to work for the United Nations came, he took the job—and the danger that went with it.

A bachelor, Buenaventura gave regular financial support to his family in Malolos. This school year, he provided the tuition for eight of his nephews and nieces—two of them in high school, three in the elementary school and three in pre-school.

His last vacation with his family, from January to June, was the longest he had since he worked in the United Nations. The US-Iraq war delayed his return to work. On St. John the Baptist's Day, he left for Baghdad. His family was wary about him going back immediately after the war, but he said he "has to work."

"We have a contract and we know the risks in our job. We are in a hardship duty station," said Vicky Pangilinan, a co-worker and friend. "Sometimes, we were also complacent whenever we hear about reports of bombings."

"Ronnie and I took our jobs because it was self-fulfilling. You're part of an entire cycle. It is challenging," Pangilinan said.

She described Buenaventura as a sincere person, he is "humble and not really a people person, but he really gives everything in his work." In the seven years that they knew each other, they never had any misunderstanding at all, "probably because I'm a female and he's a guy. He doesn't like rumors."

UN co-workers

In e-mailed condolences, Buenaventura's friends and co-workers expressed high regard for him.

"He was a decent, patient and principled person. He is well-respected and ready to stretch a helping hand to others," wrote Mekbib Kifle.

"Ronnie was so cool and I loved his wicked sense of humor. He was always precise, reliable and helpful," wrote Kaoruko Kitamaru.

Another co-worker, Samuel Baidoo, who haven't met Buenaventura, wrote: "I never had the pleasure of meeting your brother having joined this mission only a few months ago. No doubt, you and your family have not only lost a brother, a caring and nurturing person ... but that your grief will be unbounded by the knowledge that he was cut in his prime."

Ed Tsui, director of Unocha who flew in to Bulacan from New York, said Buenaventura was "extremely generous, he takes care of everybody. He even gives money to children in Iraq even if that's not allowed. He just had to do something."

Mayor Domingo said the people of Malolos would never forget Buenaventura's sacrifices as he died while performing his duty to attain peace in Iraq.

The victim's older brother Wilfredo could not hide his anger at the people behind the attack.

"They should have spared the UN offices. They should have respected the UN's nonpolitical status to avoid hurting innocent people," he said in Filipino.

"His death was too painful to bear," he said in Filipino, adding that their mother, Leticia, 78, was still hurting.

In his last e-mail to his family, Buenaventura said he would like to spend some days in Rome. But that was cut short by his untimely death. He was able to promote peace by giving full service not only to his family and countrymen, but he became another casualty of war.

Despite mutiny ...

From page A1

mired in political crisis.

The Economist also noted the Philippine economy registered a 4.5-percent growth in its gross domestic product (GDP) for the first quarter—higher than Malaysia's 4.0 percent, Indonesia's 3.4 percent, South Korea's 3.7 percent and Taiwan's 3.2 percent.

For the second quarter, however, the country's GDP growth decelerated to 3.2 percent. Nonetheless, the country's economic performance was better than its neighbors, such as South Korea, 1.19 percent GDP growth; Singapore, negative 4.2 percent; and Taiwan, negative 0.1 percent.

The deceleration of several economies in the region was attributed to global tensions arising from the US-Iraq war and the outbreak of SARS in the first half of the year.

Stable outlook

International credit rating firm Moody's on Thursday also retained its stable outlook on Philippine foreign currency debt, shrugging off fresh rumblings of an attempted coup against President Macapagal-Arroyo.

US-based Moody's Investors Service said it was retaining the stable outlook on Manila's Ba1 foreign currency rating and the negative outlook on its Baa3 rating for government obligations.

"While recent challenges to the authority of the (Macapagal) administration and of the country's central bank reflect underlying political cleavages in the Philippines, Moody's assessment is that the government remains capable of maintaining political and economic stability," it said.

"As long as domestic and external conditions suggest that the government will be able to advance its overall economic program, the Philippines ratings will be maintained at current levels."

However, Moody's warned that recent political events "could strain the Philippines external payments position," citing weak export data and declining foreign equity investment inflows.

The government said Thursday that Philippine merchandise exports fell sharply in July as the key electronics sector continued weaker, leaving overseas shipments largely flat so far this year. ***(See story in Business, Page B1)***

For Ms Macapagal to succeed in her remaining nine months in office, Moody's said she "will need to demonstrate that such incidents (as the July 27 revolt) were isolated events and do not portend greater upheaval in the run up to next year's elections."

"Erosion of investor confidence would weaken both the government's fiscal position and the country's external payments position," it added.

Moody's Investors Service said both the failed Makati mutiny as well as a recent Court of Appeals order suspending Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Rafael Buenaventura from office for a year for alleged abuse of authority were "apparently intertwined and connected to maneuvering by political opponents of the President in the run-up to the May 2004 presidential election."

Ms Macapagal has promised not to run to seek a full six-year term in next year's presidential election, but she is widely expected to renege on her word.

Despite the renewed challenge from rebel soldiers, Moody's said the Philippines' fiscal performance so far this year "offers evidence in favor of the government's economic policy capabilities."

It cited improved revenue collections and expenditure restraint, saying these could reduce the government deficit comfortably below the administration's P202-billion target for 2003. *Reports from Cynthia D. Balana and AFP*

4stroke
Evolve with Suzuki 4-stroke.
Safety Headlight & Tail Lamp
Double your safety with a twin bulb headlight and built-in LED stop lamp above the tail lamp.
Anti-Theft Device
Maximize security with a covered magnetic ignition switch that opens only for your key.
Bigger Storage Area
Huge 10.3 liter space is big enough even for a half helmet.
LCD Instrument Panel
Liquid crystal display makes the instrument panel light and compact.
Superior 4-stroke 125 cc Engine

Introducing the all-new Shogun R 125. Experience Suzuki's breakthrough 4-stroke technology in the new Shogun R 125. A new 125 cc engine guarantees excellent fuel efficiency and superior road performance. A result of advanced design, it has an unbelievably light frame for easy handling. Loaded with Suzuki's value-packed convenience features, check out why the new Shogun R 125 is an evolution in the way you ride.

NEW Shogun R 125

Available colors
Medium Blue Metallic, Light Greenish Gold, and Science Yellow/Crystal Black

SUZUKI
Ride the winds of change

Breakup of Manila diocese just what Catholics need, says cleric

By Luige del Puerto

IN A COUNTRY where 80 percent are Catholics, spreading the Word of God is not as easy as it sounds.

According to a parish priest, evangelization—or the teaching of the Holy Gospel—remains the greatest challenge of the Church.

Fr. Manuel Gabriel, Pasig parish priest, said that the breakup of the Archdiocese of Manila would ease their work of spreading the Word.

"Manila is too big," Gabriel said during the inauguration of the Pasig diocese, one of several that emerged from the breaking up of the Manila Archdiocese. "(With the breakup), the Church can better respond to the needs of the people."

For the first time since 1572, the parishes of Pasig, Pateros and Taguig have been separated from Manila.

Their parishioners, who number more than a million, are optimistic.

Joey Marquez, council president of the San Antonio Abad Parish, said that he hopes this would hasten the creation of the "church of the poor."

He said under the new system, parishioners would become closer and more coordinated in sharing programs and social services.

At the helm of the new Pasig diocese is Fr. Francisco C. San Diego, a native of Obando, Bulacan.

San Diego served as bishop of the Diocese of San Pablo in Laguna, and as Apostolic Vicar of Palawan.

He was ordained priest in 1962.

Fr. Roy Rosales, chancellor of the Pasig diocese, said autonomy means better administration.

"We can draft our own direction and vision-mission," Rosales said.

The creation of the Pasig Diocese came at a time when the Church is plagued with sex scandals, while threats of another mutiny is shaking up the government.

Against this backdrop, Gabriel said there is a special need to evangelize the political life of Filipinos.

Gabriel criticized the "gimmickry" of political leaders, adding the breakdown of moral values in society can only stem from a corrupt leadership.

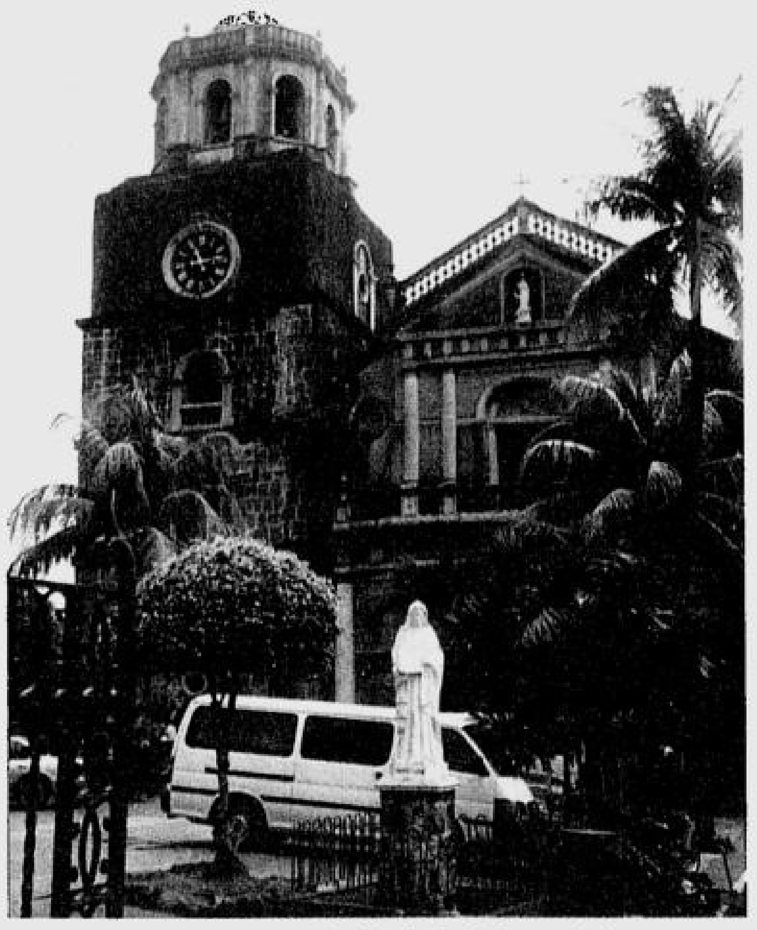
He said the ultimate result of decades of corruption is poverty, and the ultimate victims are the poor.

"We have to break a lot of barriers that perpetuate poverty," he said. "We have to stop the manipulation that we do that makes people poorer."

Augustinian priests built the first church in Pasig on Jan. 20, 1572 in Pinagbuhatan.

Perennially flooded, the church was later transferred to higher ground, now known as the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Its first parish priest was Fr. Alonzo de Alvarado.


RISING from the breakup of the Manila Archdiocese is the new Diocese of Pasig, with its seat at the Immaculate Conception Church in Barangay Malinao.

Bank rob suspects head South, police say

By Margaux Ortiz

CRIMINALS monitor the news, too.

A ranking official of the Parañaque City police yesterday said news reports of the arrest of a suspect in Monday's bank robbery may have compromised follow-up operations to arrest the remaining suspects.

Supt. Rolando Estilles, Parañaque police chief, said that the highly publicized arrest of Gerry Antonio, in connection with the Union Bank robbery, may have prompted suspects Reynaldo Antonio and Danilo Francisco to successfully elude police and go into hiding.

"We were supposed to have arrested the two other suspects immediately, after arresting Gerry Antonio," Estilles said.

He added that the suspects, based in Pasig City, may have already fled to their provinces in the South.

Estilles said the members of the bank robbery group are natives of Ozamis City, Misamis and Catanduanes.

"We are now coordinating with the Quezon City police regarding the whereabouts of the suspects—if they are still in Metro Manila," Estilles said.

He also said they have contacted law enforcers in the South to help them in the manhunt.

Estilles said members of the gang were known to head South after robbing a bank in Metro Manila and dividing the loot.

"They (robbers) spend all their money in the provinces," Estilles said. "(When the money runs out) they come back again to Metro Manila to rob other banks."

HK junket probe questioned

Case should be in DILG's hands, says city vice mayor

By Tarra Quismundo

IT IS not their job.

Manila Vice Mayor Danilo Lacuna yesterday questioned the Barangay Bureau's investigation of Rep. Harry Angping's sponsorship of 61 barangay officials who took a trip to Hong Kong.

"(The barangay bureau does) not have the power to investigate barangay officials," said Lacuna. "In my opinion, it should be the DILG (Department of Interior and Local Government)."

Lacuna, who authored the ordinance that created the Manila Barangay Bureau when he was city councilor, said that the bureau is only mandated to "coordinate the activities of barangay" units.

"(Barangay units) are separate governments within their territorial jurisdiction," said Lacuna, adding that officials in the bureau are appointed. "No appointed official has power over elected ones."

He added that barangay chairmen are even more powerful than officials in City Hall, since they exercise executive, judicial, and legislative functions within their territory.

"If there's a need to get permits, barangay officials should get those from the DILG," said Lacuna.

The barangay officials—all from the city's 3rd district—are now being investigated for going on a four-day "educational trip" to Hong Kong and Shenzen, China, last August, without getting travel permits from City Hall.

The barangay officials were allegedly made to sign waivers declaring that they were not government officials.

Angping reportedly took care of all the officials' travel documents, and paid for travel expenses and some shopping.

But Barangay Bureau Executive Director Norberto Enriquez said that they are conducting the investigation "under the direction of the Mayor."

"The mayor has power of supervision and investigation of barangays," said Enriquez.

In a recent interview, Manila Mayor Lito Atienza said that the city legal officer and the bureau are investigating the matter "to see what action they could take ... to correct this malpractice."

METROBRIEFS

Fireman hurt in fire

A FIREFIGHTER was seriously injured after a two-hour fire hit a hardware shop on Wednesday night in Quezon City. Fire Officer (FO) 2 Emelito Samonte is being treated at a hospital for second degree burns in the right arm. The fire hit the David Bonamy Hardware on Commonwealth Avenue corner Don Jose Ideal Subdivision in Fairview around 11 p.m. and destroyed goods and property worth P5 million. The fire also caused tension and panic among policemen and inmates at the nearby Central Police District Station 5 in Fairview. As the fire razed the shop, the prisoners were temporarily transferred to other police community precincts. But they were immediately returned to the Fairview police station as soon as fire was put out. *Tina Santos*

Korean tourist abducted

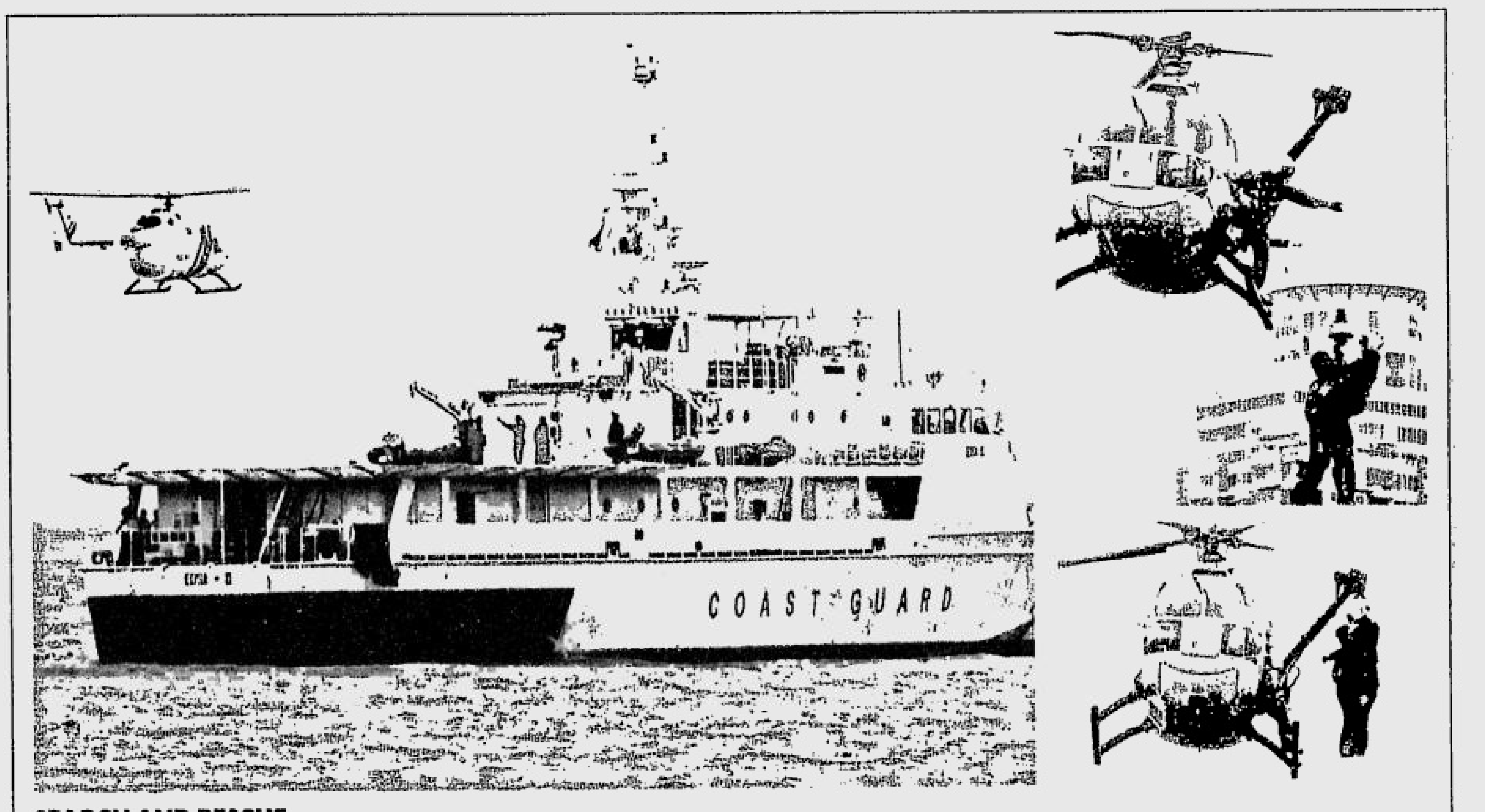
A KOREAN tourist was allegedly kidnapped by a fellow Korean while they were having dinner at a Makati restaurant the other night. Police said Sung Jong Lim, a resident of Mandaluyong City, was having dinner with fellow Koreans at the G-Han Grill when five men approached their table. One of them identified himself as a policeman and allegedly forced Lim to go with them. When one of the Koreans asked why they were taking Lim, another Korean retorted that Lim cheated him. Police did not identify who made the remark, but said he went with Lim when he was led away into a waiting Mitsubishi Lancer car with plate no. PLY-674. Police suspect the two Koreans had a falling out over money matters. *Margaux Ortiz*

Bus rob gang busted

PASSENGERS plying Ortigas Avenue in Pasig City could now breathe a little easier. The police said yesterday it has neutralized the notorious "Tirtir Gang" which had been operating in the area for months now. A combination of luck and perseverance finally brought the gang down, Insp. Jovita Iquin, head of the city's criminal investigation unit, said. It was raining hard after lunchtime when a group of policemen and traffic enforcers noticed at least two passengers jumped out of a G-Liner bus at the Junction in Barangay Rosario, Iquin said. Suddenly, four men armed with a handgun and knives rushed out. After a brief chase, the cops cornered them but one managed to escape. Arrested were Roberto Viquillo, Lito Gloria, and Alberto Regatan, all of Barangay Malinao, Pasig City. Iquin said the gang would usually board buses in Quiapo, Manila, announce the heist in San Juan and get out on Ortigas Avenue in Pasig. "This was a very slippery group. But they ran out of luck, and we were there to seize them," said Iquin. *Luige del Puerto*

Gas station robbers

ROBBERS struck at another gas station the other night inside a subdivision in Caloocan City. The two suspects, armed with handguns, stormed Pinoy Gas Station in Quirino Highway, Amparo Subdivision, Caloocan City, about 8:15 p.m. on Wednesday. Police told the INQUIRER that the suspects were on board a Yamaha Enduro motorcycle and stopped in the gas station and pretended to gas up. But when cashier Lorna Basilan approached the two men, the suspects suddenly aimed their guns at her. The suspects then took away P3,000 from the cashier and immediately fled. Police said the suspects belong to a notorious group operating in Caloocan City using motorcycles in their operations. *Edson Tandoc Jr.*



SEARCH AND RESCUE
Japanese Coast Guard personnel conduct air search and rescue exercises with their Filipino counterparts. At left, a helicopter is about to land on a Philippine Coast Guard vessel following the mock rescue of a civilian in Manila Bay (right). AFP

Death to DI

By Luige del Puerto

A DANCE instructor was sentenced to die by lethal injection by a Pasig City regional trial court for raping his mentally ill daughter four years ago.

Judge Alex Quiros on Wednesday ordered the 42-year-old dance instructor to pay his daughter, now 14, damages amounting to P125,000.

During the hearings, the victim was able to identify her father as the man who molested her five times in the past.

Quiros did not accept the father's alibi that he was asleep when the incident took place.

In his defense, the father accused his wife of manipulating their daughter and turning her against him. The convicted man also said his wife did it out of jealousy.

The couple had been living separately since 1997, records showed.

Quiros also cited the findings of the national police's Crime Laboratory which reported that the girl had indeed been raped.

On Jan. 5, 1999, the mother accused her estranged husband of sexually abusing their daughter when she found a swelling in the girl's genitals.

She told the court that she saw the swelling after her husband took their daughter with him to his home. The woman has since taken custody of the girl.

Court asked to settle 'national guessing game'

WILL she break the law if she runs?

That's what members of the Social Justice Society (SJS) want to find out.

The SJS, a political party composed mostly of lawyers, yesterday filed a petition for declaratory relief before the Manila Regional Trial Court hoping to resolve what they call "a national guessing game."

"We are asking for the court's resolution on whether President Macapagal-Arroyo would be violating any law if she runs for president in the 2004 elections," said SJS president Samson Alcantara.

In its petition, the SJS cited the Dec. 30 declaration of Ms Macapagal that she would not run in 2004.

The group named as respondent Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo.

SJS sought the court's opinion on whether such declaration is "legally binding or is contrary to law, public policy, morals, or good customs."

SJS also cited section 3 of Republic Act 6713—the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees—which said that "public officials and employees shall remain true to the people at all times."

The SJS said that a court resolution could also help clear the air on whether politicians could "make formal pledges that they do not intend to keep."

The group said that Ms Macapagal "has not made any categorical rejection" of running in 2004, amid the prodding of supporters who have hung streamers all over Manila in support of the President. *Tarra Quismundo*

Bickering pair hauled to jail over false alarm

By Leila Salaverria

A FAMILY argument triggered a hostage-taking scare in Manila yesterday morning after a relative of those involved reported the incident to the police.

Insp. Joselito Binayug of Western Police District Station 3 said that an Ulderica Balbuena called up the police at around 9 a.m. to report that Bernarda U. Caine, 56, was being held hostage by Caine's nephew, Edgardo U. Samios, 48, at Caine's house on Lope de Vega Street, Manila.

Balbuena allegedly told authorities that Samios had dragged Caine from an FX taxi and had dragged her to the house at around 7 a.m.

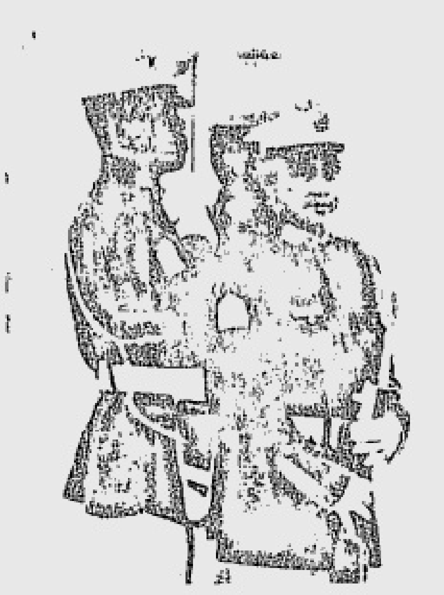
But when police from the Alvarez Police Community Precinct rushed to the rescue, they discovered that Caine and Samios were having an argument over Caine's alleged P71,000 debt to her nephew.

Insp. Enrique Meñano then took Caine and Samios to WPD station 3, where the two reportedly kept on arguing.

Binayug said that the two were later released after they had been told to settle the matter between them amicably.

ACCIDENTAL SHOOTING

Apology good but justice best



RAIN OR SHINE
Honor guards at the Rizal Monument at the Luneta try to keep themselves dry at the height of typhoon 'Onyok' on Wednesday. ERIK ARAZAS

By Christian V. Esguerra

THE MOTHER and son who were mistakenly shot at in Cavite accepted yesterday the apology extended by the Philippine National Police.

But Marinel Kalambakal said she and her son Janaka would still press criminal charges against members of the Police Anti-Crime Emergency and Response (Pacer) team.

"Being a Christian, I accept their apology," the mother told the INQUIRER. "But this won't keep me from filing charges against them."

She said her lawyer was still studying what criminal charges to slap against Insp. Ofelio Concina and his men.

Pacer operatives were hunting down the group that had kidnapped a Korean businessman when they spotted the Kalambakal's green Toyota Revo (XFR 970) in Bacoor last Monday.

They claimed they fired at the tires because the occupants refused to stop.

But Kalambakal said the operatives did not bother to flag down her vehicle and simply fired at it upon sight.

"They had no identification whatsoever," she said. "They just poked their guns at me and my son."

The mother said the Pacer team then brought them to the Bacoor police station where they were detained.

Cop tries to get son out of jail, detained

By Luige del Puerto

A POLICEMAN who tried to help his son out of jail ended being locked up after he became rowdy and challenged anti illegal drug agents to a duel inside their office yesterday in Mandaluyong City on before dawn yesterday.

P03 Bonifacio Castroverde, a member of the Police Protection and Security Office (PSPO) at Camp Crame came to the Special Drug Enforcement Unit of the Mandaluyong Police drunk at 1:30 a.m., said SP02 Oliver Yumul, head of the city's anti-illegal drugs unit.

According to Yumul, Castroverde wanted them to release his son, Vingky, who was nabbed Wednesday night for possession of shabu and drug paraphernalia in Barangay Addition Hills.

Yumul said the younger Vingky was considered an "untouchable" in his neighborhood because his father was a policeman assigned in Camp Crame.

"After the arrest, we expected the father to rush here. And rush he did," Yumul said.

When the police refused to yield to Castroverde's request, he got angry and threatened the lawmen at the station, said investigator P01 Norito Lobrido.

In their affidavit, P02 Ruben Baliong, P02 Edwin Pascual and P01 Marcelino Boyles said the air was thick with tension.

Yumul said his men did not really want anything to happen. "We were all cops, you know," he said.

Fortunately, Castroverde gave it up after he found himself outnumbered, said Yumul.

He was detained but was fetched by a Crame-based official.

There were efforts to "settle" the issue "among cops," a police officer said. "More likely than not, this would be settled," he said.

'Ina' rites celebrated in Metro

A FESTIVITY famous in Naga City will be celebrated in Metro Manila in honor of Our Lady of Peñafrancia or "Ina."

The Peñafrancia Devotees Association of Metro Manila has slated a series of activities to enliven their love for "Ina."

Novena Prayers and Masses will be held from Sept. 11 to 13, 6 p.m. at St. Andrew the Apostle Parish Church on N. Garcia Street, Bel-Air, Makati City.

On the last day of the celebration on Sept. 14, a motorcade carrying the image of "Ina" will start at 2:30 p.m. from St. Andrew's church.

A fluvial procession will follow at 4 p.m. along Pasig River from Hospicio de San Jose to the Ferry Landing at Escolta, Jones Bridge.

A high mass at 6 p.m. at the Manila Metropolitan Cathedral to be led by Bishop Nestor Cariño will culminate the festivities.

Boy, 4, killed in flood

By Edson Tandoc Jr.

CHRISTIAN Catmon went out of their house in Malabon on an errand from her mother at about 10 a.m., Wednesday.

The 4-year-old boy died minutes later after being electrocuted while playing in floodwater.

Neighbors said the boy, of 75 Asoge St., Brgy. Tugatog, was tempted to join the other kids playing in the flood.

But when the boy went near an electric post, the boy suddenly shook violently, a police report from Malabon City Police said.

Bystanders rushed him to the Pagamutang Bayan ng Malabon where he was declared dead on arrival.

In Navotas, the local government cautioned its residents not to allow their children to play in flood water because of possible infection.

Want your copy delivered?

Subscribe now to the No.1 newspaper in the country and get straight news, in-depth analysis, provocative columns, and broad features everyday right at your doorstep.

INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

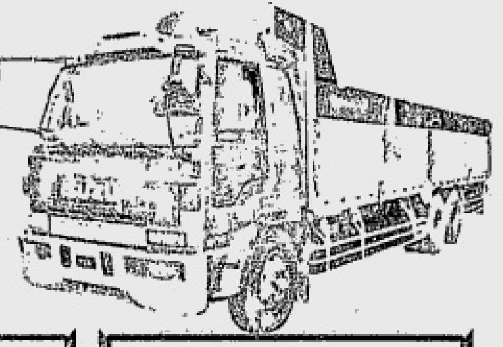
For Metro Manila home delivery,
please call us at 528-01-83 • 528-02-13 • 528-01-86
fax reply coupon at: 528-02-34
or mail to:

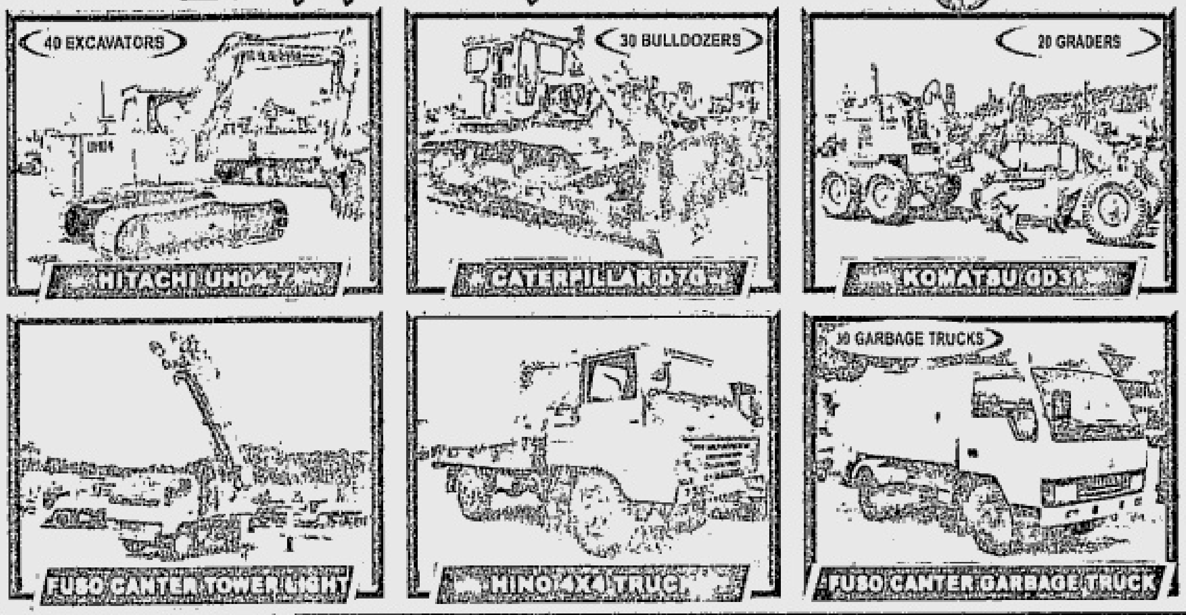
Philippine Daily Inquirer c/o Circulation Division,
Ground Floor, Trinity Bldg., #636 Kalaw St., Manila
Yes, I would like to subscribe to the Philippine Daily Inquirer
Please have my copy delivered to:

Name
Address
Tel. No.
Signature

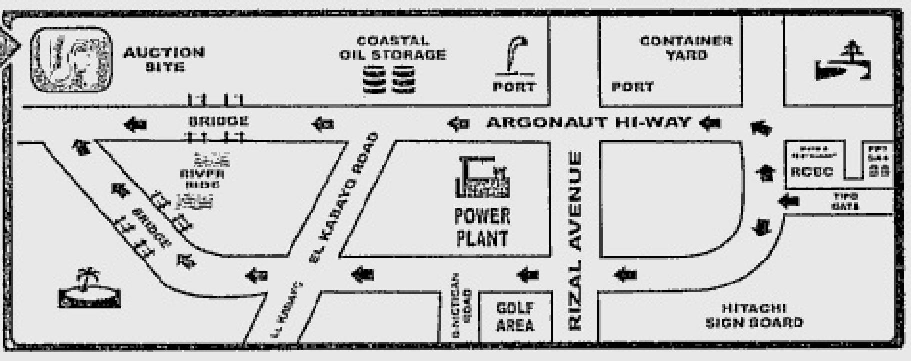
United Auctioneers, Inc.
TRUCKS, VANS & HEAVY EQUIPMENT
PUBLIC AUCTION

SEPT. 6, 7 & 8, 2003
Sale starts at 8:30 AM SHARP!
Catch The Best At
SUBIC BAY
PHILIPPINES
INSPECTION DATES: AUG 30, 31, SEPT 1 TO 5, 2003
REGISTRATION DATES: AUG 30, 31, SEPT 1 TO 8, 2003





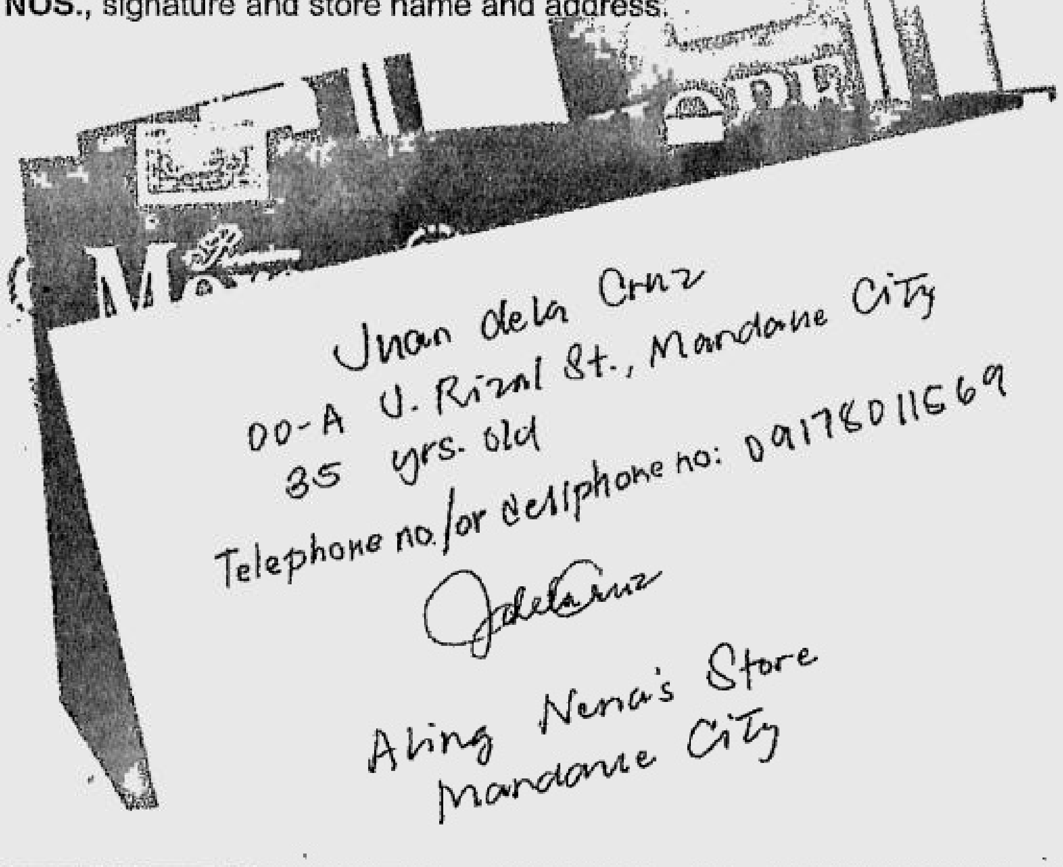
LOCATION MAP
SUBIC
BLDG. 1455 ARGONAUT
HIGHWAY, SUBIC BAY
FREEPORT, PHILIPPINES
TEL NOS:
(047) 252-1129
252-1155 to 58
FAX NO:
(047) 252-5569



E-MAIL: Info@uauctioneers.com WEBSITE: www.uauctioneers.com

HOPE & More
MEGA MILLION STAKES
PROMO UPDATE

Here's the latest on the biggest, longest-running promo. So winners can be notified immediately after each draw, **RESIDENCE TELEPHONE OR CELLPHONE NOS. ARE TO BE WRITTEN IN THE ENTRIES.** Thus, entry forms for the next draws should contain the following; name, address, age, **TELEPHONE/CELLPHONE NOS.**, signature and store name and address.



Juan dela Cruz
00-A U. Rizal St., Mandaue City
35 yrs. old
Telephone no./or cellphone no: 09178011569

Aling Nena's Store
Mandaue City

ONE MORE REMINDER. Employees of Fortune Tobacco Corporation, its marketing arms, its advertising agencies and DOH-BFAD as well as their relatives up to the 2nd degree of consanguinity are not qualified to join this promo.

DOH-BFAD No. 0252-2003

Goverment Warning:
Cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health.

SUERTRES
6 2 6

SIX DIGIT (In exact order)
0 0 5 8 3 7

SUPERLOTTO 6/49
9 13 19 20 33 48

METRO

E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph

Editor **Abelardo S. Ulanday**

PDEA: Drive pushes shabu prices up

By Christian V. Esguerra

THE GOVERNMENT crackdown on illegal drugs has caused the price of shabu to shot up by as much as 500 percent, according to the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA).

From P1,000 per gram, shabu is now sold in the streets between P5,000 and P6,000, said PDEA chief Anselmo Avenido.

The official said the huge price increase was triggered by the dismantling of four shabu laboratories and three warehouses during the past two months.

"Supply was greatly reduced and pushers are now resorting to pilferage to make up for their losses," he told the INQUIRER.

Avenido said the PDEA had been receiving reports of peddlers mixing shabu with cheaper chemicals, including "*tawas*" or alum, which is used as a deodorant.

"The practice further endangers the lives of users because we don't know what these additives could do to their brains," the PDEA chief said.

Less than three weeks into the end of President Macapagal-Arroyo's deadline, Avenido expressed confidence that the PDEA and other government agencies would meet her targets.

By Sept. 18, the President had said the PDEA should have already busted 62 foreign and local drug rings, arrested 15,000 pushers and users, and uprooted 50 marijuana plantations.

From June 19 to Aug. 18, the government neutralized one transnational drug ring and 28 local groups, arrested 6,686 "drug personalities," and cleared 868 barangays of illegal drugs, according to the official PDEA report.

The biggest accomplishment so far was the arrest of Jackson Dy and the dismantling of his alleged shabu laboratories in Tanza, Cavite, and his two warehouses.

Word war erupts over 'stolen drugs'

ALLEGATIONS of shabu being stolen during a raid and of attempts to sabotage the campaign on illegal drugs has led to members of the Philippine National Police squabbling among themselves.

Yesterday, police director Chief Insp. Audie Madrideo of Tanza, Cavite, branded as a "lie" an accusation that he initiated "the demolition job against (Chief Insp. Nelson) Yabut and his men."

Yabut heads the team from the Anti Illegal Drugs Special Task Force (AIDSTF) that is now being investigated for allegedly taking 50 kilos of high-grade shabu from an illegal drugs lab in Barangay Capipisa, Tanza, in July.

"I have nothing against them. Why would I instigate anything against them?" Madrideo said.

He added, "They are just trying to make me their scapegoat to hide their wrongdoings."

According to Madrideo, Deputy Director Eduardo Matillano of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group called him up two weeks ago and inquired about the raid on the seaside mansion-turned-drug lab.

"Our superiors, including Gen. (Edgar) Aglipay, decided to make the investigation discreet because this could weaken the case against Jackson Dy. But I have no other choice but to defend my name and tell the truth," Madrideo told the INQUIRER.

Dy is suspected of owning the drug factory.

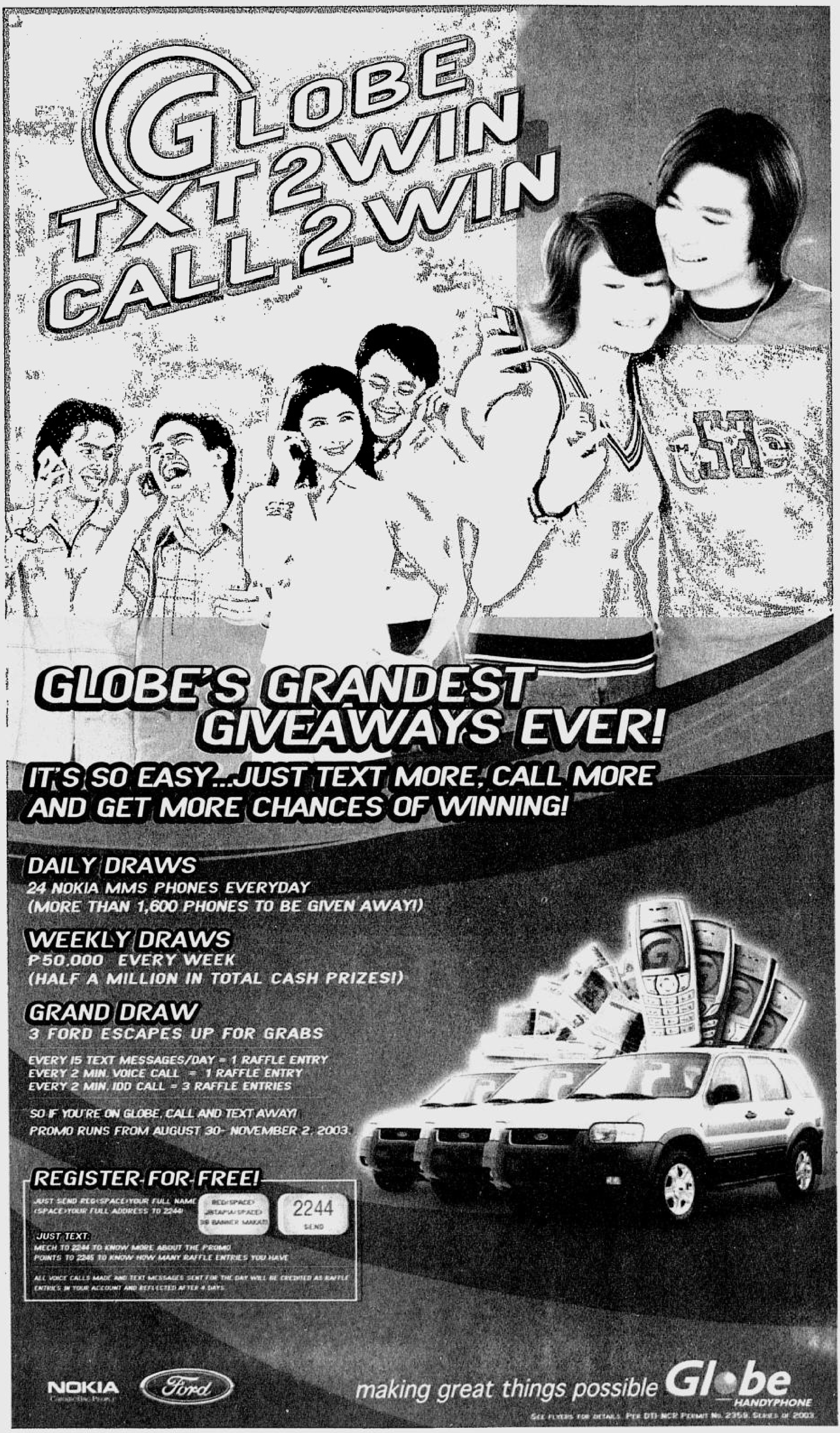
Madrideo denied "feeling bad" after Interior and Local Government Sec. Jose Lina Jr. scolded him for not detecting the shabu factory, described as the biggest in the country.

The Tanza police director turned the tables on Yabut and his men saying these entered the shabu factory at about 4 p.m. on July 24 (not July 25 as earlier reported) despite not having a search warrant.

"When we went there, at around 6 p.m., Yabut's men were already inside the drug lab," Madrideo related.

Citing supposed witness accounts, Madrideo claimed, "Yabut had already taken a black bag, a black suitcase and a big casserole used for cooking shabu."

But he said the witnesses were not sure what was inside the luggage. *Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*


GLOBE TXT 2 WIN CALL 2 WIN

GLOBE'S GRANDEST GIVEAWAYS EVER!

IT'S SO EASY...JUST TEXT MORE, CALL MORE AND GET MORE CHANCES OF WINNING!

DAILY DRAWS
24 NOKIA MMS PHONES EVERYDAY
(MORE THAN 1,600 PHONES TO BE GIVEN AWAY!)

WEEKLY DRAWS
P50,000 EVERY WEEK
(HALF A MILLION IN TOTAL CASH PRIZES!)

GRAND DRAW
3 FORD ESCAPES UP FOR GRABS

EVERY 15 TEXT MESSAGES/DAY = 1 RAFFLE ENTRY
EVERY 2 MIN. VOICE CALL = 1 RAFFLE ENTRY
EVERY 2 MIN. IDD CALL = 3 RAFFLE ENTRIES

SO IF YOU'RE ON GLOBE, CALL AND TEXT AWAY!
PROMO RUNS FROM AUGUST 30- NOVEMBER 2, 2003

REGISTER-FOR-FREE!
JUST SEND REG(SPACE)YOUR FULL NAME (SPACE)YOUR FULL ADDRESS TO 2244!
JUST TEXT:
MECH TO 2244 TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE PROMO
POINTS TO 2245 TO KNOW HOW MANY RAFFLE ENTRIES YOU HAVE
ALL VOICE CALLS MADE AND TEXT MESSAGES SENT FOR THE DAY WILL BE CREDITED AS RAFFLE ENTRIES IN YOUR ACCOUNT AND REFLECTED AFTER 4 DAYS

NOKIA Ford
making great things possible Globe HANDYPHONE
SEE FLYERS FOR DETAILS. PER DTI-NCR PERMIT No. 2359, SERIES OF 2003

MILD SEVEN RENAULT F1 Team SLIPSTREAM
Buy Mild Seven Original or Lights and get a chance to win one of eight trips to watch
THE 2004 MALAYSIAN GRAND PRIX.
See posters for details
Per DOH-BFAD Permit No 0324 Series of 2003
Government Warning : Cigarette Smoking is Dangerous to Your Health.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2003

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SPORTS

E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

Editor **Teddyvic S. Melendres**
Assistant Editor **Edwin M. Villanueva**

SPORTS TV
Compiled by L. Manguiat

TENNIS. US Open 2003; 7 a.m. (r - 7 p.m.); 11 p.m. and tomorrow at 1 a.m., Star Sports—Catch the men's singles quarterfinals, mixed doubles finals; men's doubles finals and women's singles semifinals all from Flushing Meadows, New York

BILLIARDS: 2003 BCA Open 9-Ball Championship; 6:30 p.m. (r); ESPN—See Efren "Bata" Reyes weave his magic once more in Las Vegas.

Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

Ateneo ousts UST; UE stops National

By Dennis U. Eroa

TWO-TIME MVP Rich Alvarez and Paolo Bugia asserted themselves in the final quarter as defending champion Ateneo ousted Santo Tomas from the Final Four race with a 63-56 decision last night in the UAAP men's basketball championship at the Araneta Coliseum.

The 6-foot-4 Alvarez had six points and blocked UST slotman Alwyn Espiritu twice while Bugia added five in the period as the Eagles repeated over the Tigers and kept the lead with a 10-3 card.

The Tigers, who needed to sweep their four games to make the semis, bowed out with a 4-7 card.

University of the East earlier got big games from its shock troopers to stop giant-killer National University, 80-69, and tie Far Eastern for second place with an 8-3 record.

With main man James Yap slowed down by a hurting back, Arnold Booker, Charles Tan, Olan Omiping and Dean Paolo Hubalde took up the cudgels as the Warriors fortified their bid for a Final Four slot.

"We jumped the gun on them," said UE mentor Boyzie Zamar of the Bulldogs, who went into the game inspired no end by their recent conquest of Ateneo and then La Salle.

The Archers remained in contention for the last semis slot at 6-5, with the Adamson Falcons breathing hard on their necks at 5-6.

NU dropped to 3-10.

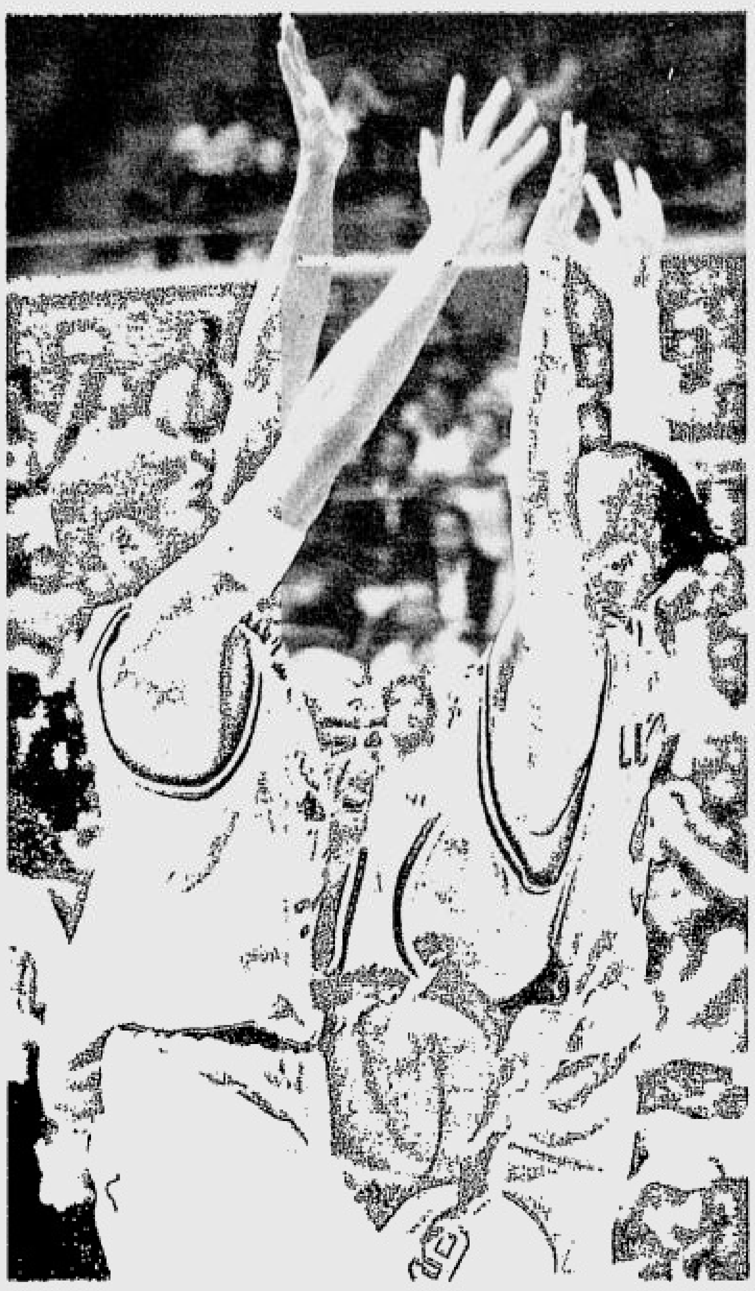
"The win was good for us because we kept the leadership, but it doesn't mean anything because our immediate goal is to retain our title," said Ateneo coach Joel Banal.

A three-pointer by Don Villamin powered Santo Tomas to a 49-45 lead at the start of the fourth period, but that proved to be the Tigers' last stand as they went scoreless for more than five minutes, allowing the Eagles to take command.

Alvarez and Bugia combined to give Ateneo a 59-56 lead, 28 seconds remaining, before Wesley Gonzales finished the job with four straight free throws.

Magnum Membrere took over

ATENEO/ A26



RICH Alvarez of Ateneo is sandwiched by Jaime Raterta (left) and Christian Luanzon of UST in this bit of UAAP action yesterday.

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

GAMES TOMORROW *(Araneta Coliseum)*
2 p.m.— Cheering Competition
4 p.m.— Adamson vs University of the Philippines (Women)
6 p.m.— Ateneo vs University of Santo Tomas (Jrs)

SHARK
Rule the Road
REVO Package!!!
SHARK ROOF CADDY
·no crossbar
·low mount
·safe on mall parkings
SURESTEP STEPBOARD
·w/ courtesy lights
FREE! BUILT-IN BACK-UP SENSOR
*For Every Revo Promo Package of:
·Roof Caddy
·Rear Bumper
·Stepboard
SHARK STAINLESS REAR BUMPER
·with third brake lights
VALID AT
SURESTEP
The No Holes Board
1013A EDSA, Veteran's Vill., Project 7, Quezon City
☎410-3067/65 · 372-3640
PROMO ENDS UNTIL SUPPLIES LAST!

NOMURA CUP

Individual title within grasp of Jerome, Juvic

DELARIARTE

PAGUNSAN

THEIR team falling too far behind to challenge for the championship, Jerome Delariarte and Juvic Pagunsan train their guns on their individual bids in today's final round of the Asia-Pacific amateur golf championship, otherwise known as the Nomura Cup, in Queensland, Australia.

Not even the big improvement of Jay Bayron, who shot a 74, could help the Filipinos from falling one notch to fifth place in team play even as Australia appeared poised for a historic three-peat right in its own backyard by opening a 10-stroke lead with a 643 total.

Korea assembled a tournament-best 210 and shot up to joint second with Japan at 653, with New Zealand dropping to fourth at 654.

The Filipinos were five behind the Kiwis with 659.

Both Delariarte and Pagunsan struggled with two-over-par 73s in the blustery conditions but stayed well in the running to become the next Filipino winner of the individual crown 14 years after the now-professional Danny Zarate had clinched it in Taipei, Taiwan.

Delariarte, still aiming for his first major achievement overseas, was just two strokes behind the rock-solid James Nitties, whose third consecutive round of 71 put him at 213.

Pagunsan, the 2001 Southeast Asian Games gold medalist, remained very much in the fight at 216.

Nitties managed to cushion the impact of the floundering form of teammate Nick Flanagan, who had just become the first Australian in 100 years to win the US Amateur.

RP team coach Rogér Retuerto and Admiral Louie Fernandez, the NGAP vice president also acting as team skipper, both expressed confidence either Jerome or Juvic can strike gold for the Philippine team.

Dumandan's 74, after a couple of 77s, completed RP's 220 tally. Marvin Dumandan did not count for the third straight day with his 79 under the four-to-play, three-to-score format.

The Filipinos will start the day 16 shots behind the Aussies, who scored 216 for the day despite the 83 of Flanagan. Mired in a tie for fifth with Pakistan in Round 2, the Koreans rode the day-best 68 of Kim Hye-dong and Sung Sea-woo's 70 to join Japan (219) at 653. New Zealand, neck-and-neck with Australia in the first two rounds, collapsed with a 229 (654).

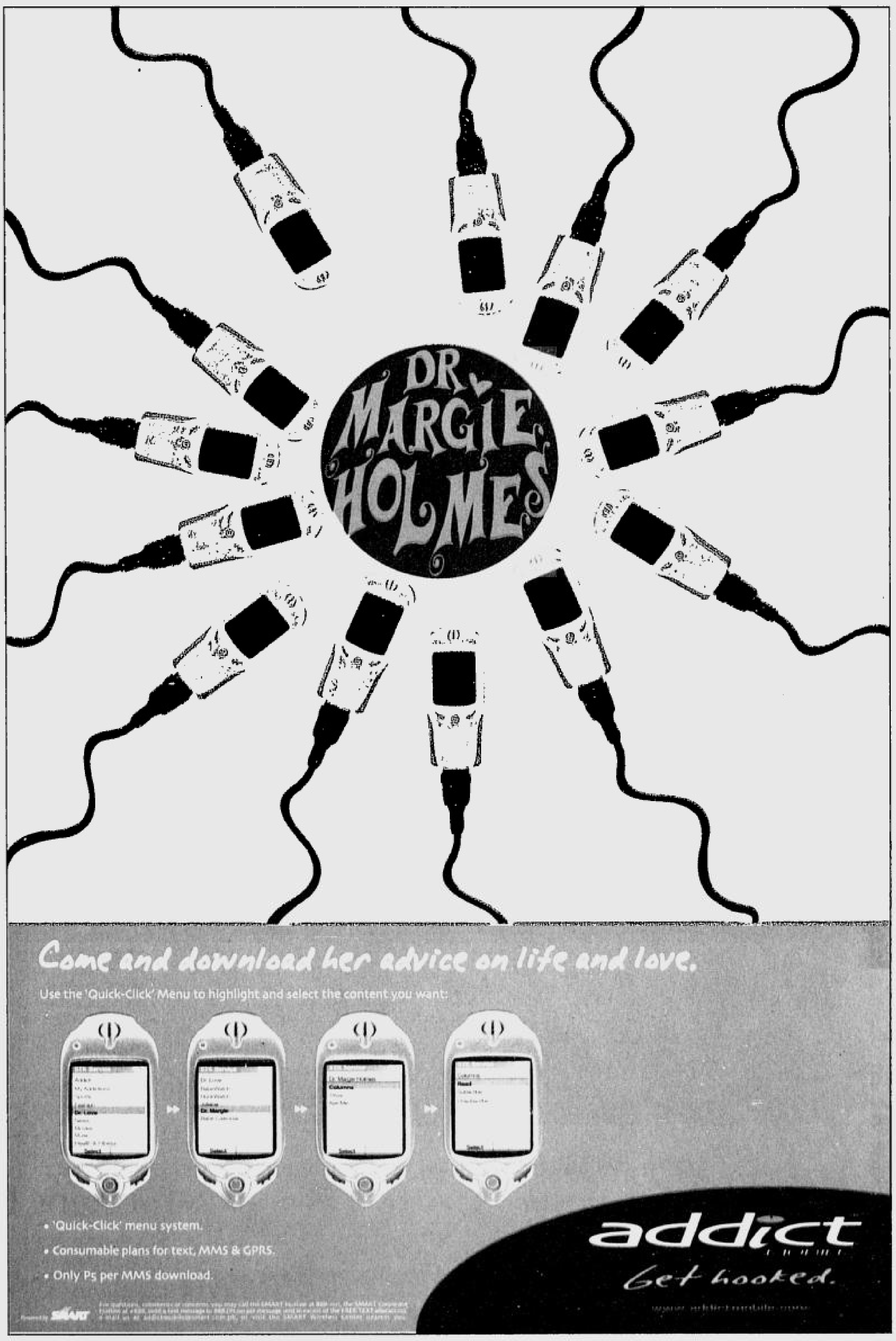
Standings after three rounds:
643—Australia (214-213-215)
653—Japan (214-220-219), Korea (221-222-210)
654—New Zealand (211-214-229)
659—Philippines (217-222-220)
668—Pakistan (221-222-225), Thailand (225-220-223)
671—Malaysia (227-225-219)
675—India (217-231-227)
681—Singapore (225-229-227), Chinese-Taipei (218-229-234)
708—Hong Kong (240-235-233)
718—Guam (246-235-237)
769—Nepal (254-265-250)
771—UAE (269-253-249)

Paragua, Sanchez keep spotless slates in Spain

FILIPINO International Masters Mark Paragua and Joseph Sanchez defeated their respective opponents Wednesday night to remain on top of the leaderboard after the third round of the Open International de Ajedrez VII Memorial Pablo Gorbea chess championship at the Sports Complex in Madrid, Spain.

The two Filipinos shared the lead at 3 points with 16 other players, including grandmasters Bogdan Lalic of England, Salvador Del Rio Angelis of Spain, and IM Jan Gustaffson, the top seed from Germany.

Paragua (Elo 2500) disposed of Spaniard David Ballesteros Gonzales while the 32-year-old Sanchez (Elo 2410) matched his 19-year-old compatriot's form by claiming his third Spanish scalp in Juan Paredes Sanchez. With a report from NM Marlon Bernardino



DR MARGIE HOLMES
Come and download her advice on life and love.
Use the 'Quick-Click' Menu to highlight and select the content you want:
• 'Quick-Click' menu system.
• Consumable plans for text, MMS & GPRS.
• Only P5 per MMS download.
addict
Get hooked.

7 races prelude to tougher Tour Pilipinas

SEVEN tough races in Pangasinan, Tagaytay, Metro Manila and Puerto Princesa this month and in October and November formally kick off the 2004 cycling season which will be capped by the Tour Pilipinas in March.

Two of the races—a team time trial and a road race—will be staged in Pangasinan, hotbed of local cycling, on Sept. 20 and 21. A pair of races will be run in both Tagaytay City (Nov. 8 and 9) and Puerto Princesa (Nov. 29 and 30). The seventh race is set for Metro Manila on Oct. 19, according to Air 21 chair Bert Lina, who also heads the Tour Pilipinas.

"These races formally start the cycling season which will be highlighted by the 2004 Tour Pilipinas," said Lina, acknowledged as today's godfather of Philippine cycling. "We hope that by staging these races, we will get the cream of the crop of Philippine cycling, first for the Tour and eventually for the national team."

Spurred on by his love for cycling, Lina has taken a lead role in bankrolling the Tour.

The Tour Pilipinas has seeded the top 36 riders from last summer's multi-stage spectacle, led by overall champion Arnel Quirimit, to next year's competition.

Because of the general elections in May, the 2004 Tour has been scheduled at an earlier date in March, Lina said.

Next year's Tour will have 17 stages and be spread over 21 days. Last summer's 18-day Tour consisted of 15 stages, ran mostly in Luzon.

Initial plans for the 2004 Tour include stages in the Visayas as well as stops in eastern and north-central Luzon, particularly in Banawe.

Red Bull eyes 2nd win vs TNT today

GAMES TODAY *(Cuneta Astrodome)*
5:30 p.m.—San Miguel Beer vs FedEx
7:30 p.m.—Red Bull vs Talk 'N Text

STANDINGS	W	L
Red Bull	1	0
Shell	1	0
Ginebra	1	0
Sta. Lucia	1	0
Coca-Cola	1	0
FedEx	0	1
Talk 'N Text	0	1
San Miguel	0	1
Alaska	0	1
Purefoods	0	1

By June Navarro

RED Bull Barako hopes to sustain an explosive start when it takes on Talk 'N Text today in the Samsung-PBA Reinforced Conference at the Cuneta Astrodome.

The Thunder, who seemed to have a gem of an import in Ramel Lloyd as they overwhelmed the FedEx Express, 100-92, during the opener in Baguio City last week, gun for their second straight win against the Phone Pals at 7:30 p.m.

The FedEx Express try to bounce back in the 5:30 p.m. curtain-raiser against the San Miguel Beermen, who will now be seeing action with Shea Seals, the team's import in last season's Commissioner's Cup.

Playing without an import, the Beermen succumbed to the Barangay Ginebra Kings, 85-82, Saturday, with Romel Adducul drilling in a long jumper at the buzzer.

Lloyd's all-around game will be tested by the Phone Pals, who will pin their hopes anew on Damian Cantrell.

Cantrell proved wanting, however, when Talk 'N Text took a 114-101 defeat from the Shell Turbochargers.

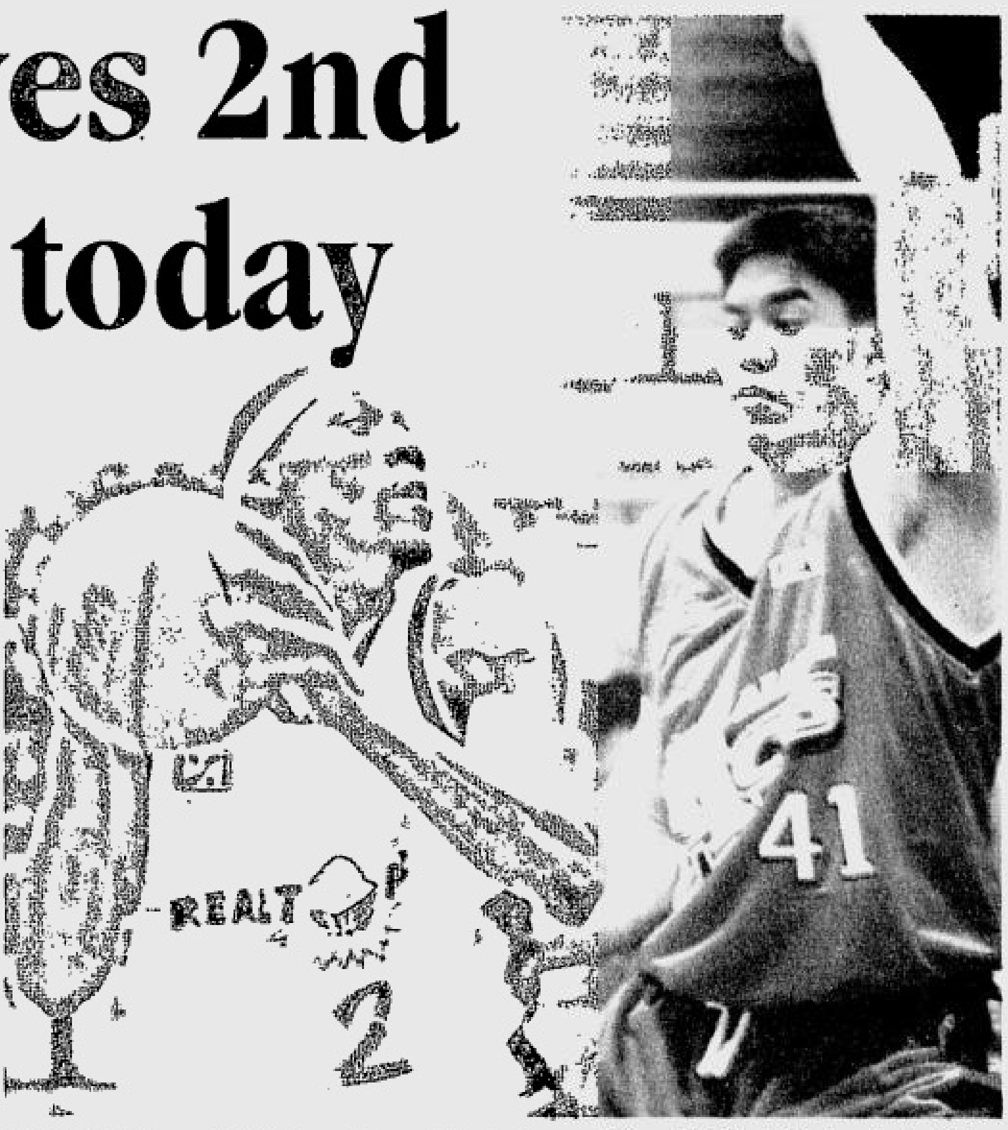
Cantrell, who played for the Continental Basketball Association's Yakima Sun Kings under Talk 'N Text interim coach Bill Bayno, was of little help to the Phone Pals, who are bidding for their second title in three conferences.

Focus will also be on Seals and Shannon as the locals of both teams are more or less on equal footing ability-wise.

Seals and Shannon were only the second choices after the original picks of FedEx and SMB tested positive for marijuana use.

The Express' initial choice was United States Basketball League standout Darrin Hancock.

Cris Clack, San Miguel's first import pick, was sacked two days before the Beermen made their debut against sister team Barangay Ginebra, forcing SMB coach Jong Uichico to play with an all-Filipino quintet.



STA. LUCIA import Nate James fakes off Alaska forward Miguel Noble in Wednesday's PBA game won by the Realtors, 82-78.
AUGUST DELA CRUZ

No-bearing games end NCAA elims

GAMES TODAY *(Rizal Coliseum)*
11:30 a.m.—UPHR vs SSC-R (Jrs)
2 p.m.—UPHR vs SSC-R (Srs)
4 p.m.—PCU vs Mapua (Srs)
6 p.m.—PCU vs Mapua (Jrs)

DEFENDING champion San Sebastian and Mapua warm up for their Final Four showdown when they take on separate rivals today in no-bearing games closing the eliminations of the 79th NCAA basketball tournament at the Rizal Coliseum.

The defending champion Stags are assured of a twice-to-beat privilege in the semifinals even if they lose to the University of Perpetual Help-Rizal Altas at 2 p.m.

The Cardinals, who clinched the last semifinal berth when the College of St. Benilde Blazers clobbered the San Beda Lions, 79-69, Wednesday, wrap up their campaign at 4 p.m. against the Philippine Christian Dolphins.

STANDINGS	W	L
SSC-R	9	4
Letran	9	5
JRU	8	6
Mapua	7	6
SBC	6	8
CSB	6	8
UPHR	5	8
PCU	4	9

With their 9-4 slate, the Stags are sure to finish No.1 over the Letran Knights due to a better quotient, even if they lose to the Altas.

The Knights (9-5) seized the other twice-to-beat slot after beating the Jose Rizal Heavy Bombers, 80-78, on Wednesday. Letran and Jose Rizal will collide in the other Final Four duel.

While the Cardinals have a chance to tie the Bombers for third if they beat the Dolphins, Jose Rizal would still finish third. JRU beat Mapua twice in the elimination round.

The Stags are seeking a third straight championship as coach Turo Valenzona chases San Sebastian's record five titles in a row in the mid-90s.

Only pride is left for the Altas and the Dolphins, who are both trying to avoid finish dead last. If the Dolphins win and the Altas drop their final assignment, the Altas will wind up dead last under the winner-over-the-other rule. *June Navarro*

Ateneo ousts UST; UE stops National

From page A25

from Larry Fonacier, scoring nine points, as Ateneo forged ahead, 43-40, with four minutes left in the third. But the Tigers finished the quarter with six straight points for a 46-43 advantage.

Yap sat out most of the game for UE and finished with six points, but Omiping, Paul Artadi and Booker scored heavily on fastbreaks to keep National at bay.

Omiping scattered 13 of his 20 points in the second half as the Warriors took a comfortable 70-57 bubble, 3:37 remaining.

In the first game, the UE Pages blasted the NU Bullpups, 94-45, to remain in the hunt for a semis berth.

Scores:

Second Game (Srs)

UE 80—Omiping 20, Artadi 16, Booker 8, Tan 7, Canaleta 7, Yap 6, Alminario 6, Hubalde 4, Butel 2, Masbang 2, Estrada 2, Ronquillo 0.

NU 69—Mendoza 20, Tolentino 14, Cajayon 10, Baljon 6, Miclat 5, Malagueno 5, Baguion 4, Catamora 3, Maleontento 2, Catamora 0.

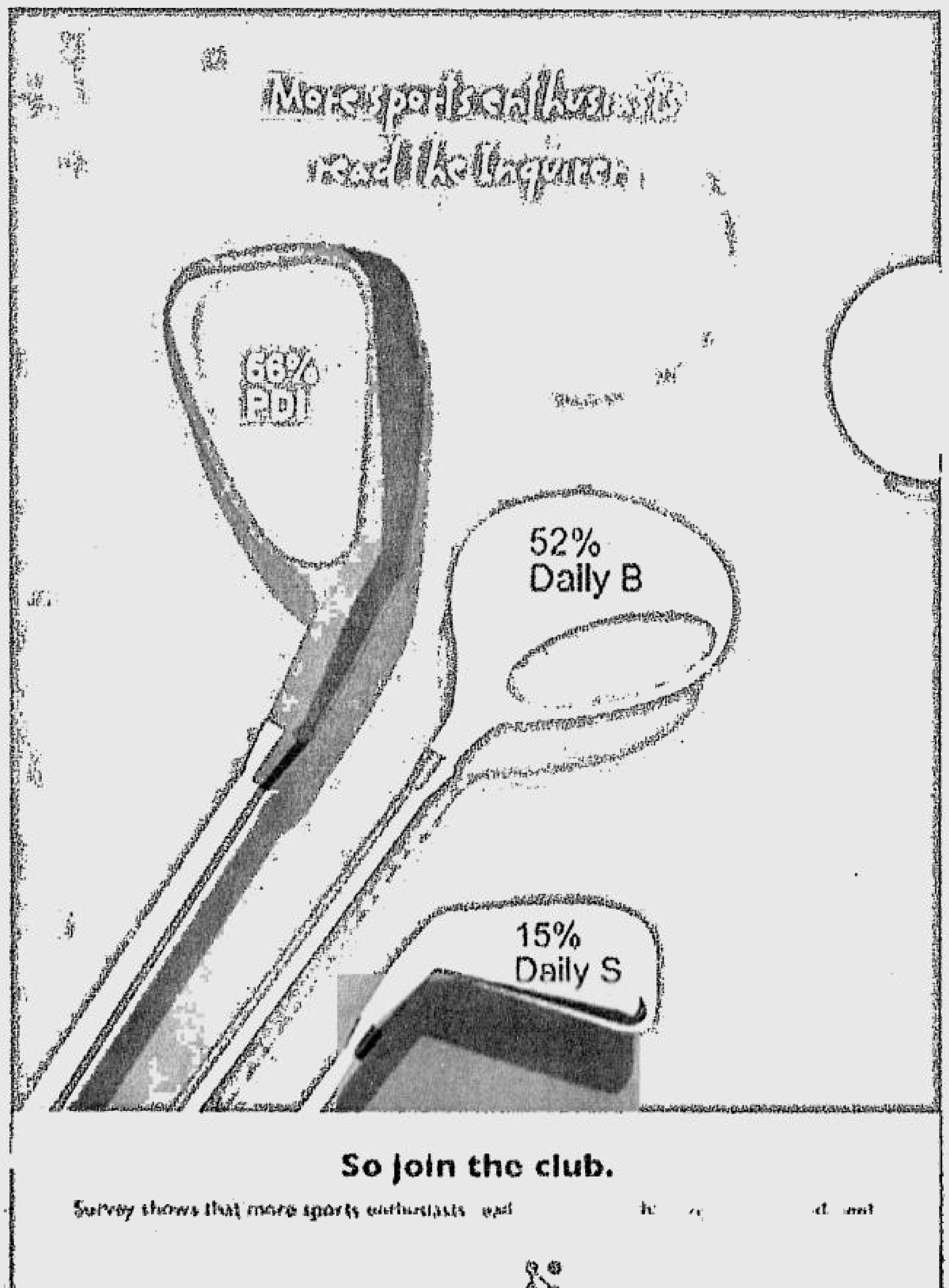
Quarters: 27-15, 40-29, 60-47, 80-69

Third Game (Srs)

ATENEO 63—Gonzales 15, Alvarez 10, Membrere 9, Arao 8, Bugia 7, Intal 5, Tenorio 4, Kramer 3, Fonacier 2, Escalona 0.

UST 56—Villamin 10, Espiritu 9, Vizcarra 8, De Guzman 5, Hubalde 5, Luanzon 5, Evangelista 4, Sumalinog 4, Raterta 2, Manansala 2, Del Rosario 2.

Quarters: 9-22, 33-32, 43-46, 63-56.



So join the club.
Survey shows that more sports enthusiasts read [illegible]
Nielsen
Media Research

Kobe Bryant: One more time

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

IT'S almost three months since Kobe Bryant was accused of sexually assaulting a 19-year-old woman in Eagle, Colorado. The 25-year-old Bryant, the Los Angeles Lakers star, has said the sex was consensual. Meaning, the woman had consented to having sex. What Bryant admitted, with tears streaming down his cheeks, was he committed adultery. He made his confession with his wife beside him during a press conference. The wife appeared to have forgiven her husband as she held Bryant's hand all the time that the basketball guard was making his tearful confession.

When news of Bryant's rape case broke out, the world was stunned somewhat. Mainly because Bryant has a clean-guy image, many doubted his capability to commit rape. I, too, could not believe it. His stature would easily fetch him women from all over, given America's liberal attitude toward sex. Add to this the fact that his wholesome image is a surefire attraction to the opposite sex.

Still, the accuser should be given the benefit of the doubt. Her word against Bryant's will be tested in court. Evidence will be the key. It's usual that there's no witness in a rape case; usually, the accuser herself is the witness.

On Thursday, Bryant's lawyers came up with a bomb: they wanted the accuser's medical records. It was a ploy to picture the accuser as not mentally balanced if and when Bryant goes to trial. Already, they have subpoenaed the Colorado hospital keeping the woman's medical file.

It is still almost a month away–on Oct. 9 to be exact–when the hearing is held to determine whether there will a trial or not.

In February this year, the alleged rape victim was admitted in a Greeley hospital after police at the University of Northern Colorado said the woman was a "danger to herself." Bryant's lawyers are trying to establish that the accuser had a medical file that said she had tried to commit suicide. That could be a damning evidence and, knowing a lawyer's flair for theatrics, Bryant's lawyers could pounce on that.

Said a law professor from the University of Colorado: "Whether that would be allowed or not (the presentation to the jury of the medical file on the accuser's attempted suicide) depends on whether there's anything else there other than (attempted) suicide, some other indication of mental instability or something that would point toward her being an unreliable observer or witness."

The American judicial system is different from ours in that in America, a group of persons they call a jury will decide whether one charged in court is guilty or not. Over there, the judge merely sets the sentence of one found guilty as charged. In our case, it's the judge who either convicts or not a person charged with a crime.

The Kobe Bryant case has and will continue to hit the headlines because Bryant is a celebrity. If he goes to trial, it can be a media event much like the OJ Simpson trial some years back. Simpson, charged with murdering his wife then, was declared innocent.

Meanwhile, as the world awaits the conclusion of the Bryant case, what's in store for Kobe's team, the Los Angeles Lakers? We must remember that the NBA season starts next month. And the Lakers are, again, favored to figure prominently in the race for the crown. I'm sure Bryant will suit up for his team but then, the question: Can he rise to the occasion? I mean, the rape case will hound him and certainly affect his concentration. Coach Phil Jackson will need more than his Zen power to extract Bryant's creative juices, given the situation that Kobe is in right now. I feel bad for Kobe.

Did he or did he not?

Hard to tell, really. Wholesome image and all, Kobe Bryant is the least you expect to do such a dastardly act.

Now if it were Mike Tyson facing the rape charge, I wouldn't think twice: Guilty.

Caging body to follow POC on logos

THE BASKETBALL Association of the Philippines will follow the International Olympic Committee rules regarding the use of sponsors' name on the national quintet's uniforms.

Graham Lim, BAP secretary general, yesterday said he would sign the memorandum of undertaking which subjects the BAP to the jurisdiction of the POC particularly on rules regarding the Southeast Asian Games.

"I was only expecting a show of support from their (POC) part, especially in our effort to protect our sponsors," said Lim.

Marc Anthony Reyes

Roddick rips Malisse, joins Agassi in last 8

Rain continues to plague US Open

NEW YORK—Fourth-seeded American Andy Roddick used a dominating serve to beat Xavier Malisse of Belgium 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 (5) to reach the US Open quarterfinals for the third straight year.

Of the more than 100 matches scheduled for Wednesday, that was the only one completed, making for a grand total of four in the books since Monday. Roddick and Andre Agassi are the only men who have quarterfinal berths secured.

"It was tough conditions out there tonight," Roddick said in a TV interview. "The balls were huge. They were like watermelons out there. It was tough, and I was glad to get through it. It was a little slick. Until I slipped, I didn't know it was that bad."

Just two other matches even got under way Wednesday, before being postponed until Thursday. Top-ranked Kim Clijsters of Belgium took a 3-0 lead over No. 5 Amelie Mauresmo of France, who committed 10 unforced errors in less than 15 minutes of play. No. 12 Sjeng Schalken of the Netherlands led No. 8 Rainer Schuettler of Germany 5-1 after 25 minutes. The winner will play Roddick.

"This is a rolling calendar at this point, which is changing by the hour," said Arlen Kantarian, the US Tennis Association's chief executive for professional tennis. "We continue to make our best effort to complete this tournament on time. We are determined to make the best of a very difficult situation."

If Thursday is a washout, the men's final could be played next Monday, Kantarian said. The last time that happened at the US Open was 1987: Goran Ivanisevic beat Patrick Rafter on a Monday to win the 2001 title at Wimbledon.

RODDICK celebrates his win over Malisse. REUTERS

Roddick and Malisse started at 9:15 p.m. (0115 GMT), by which point most players had been told to go to their hotels. They played for 44 minutes before rain forced them to stop with Roddick ahead 6-3, 2-2. When they returned, they played 11 more minutes, enough time for Roddick to break to go ahead 4-3 in the second set.

But on the final point of that game, Roddick slid behind the baseline, putting a hand down to stay upright. Malisse, a Wimbledon semifinalist in 2002, threw his racket over to his changeover seat, then tossed a water bottle. Tournament referee Brian Earley walked out to check the court, and action was held up for another 7 minutes.

But then, miraculously, the fourth-round match resumed — and finished.

That's because Roddick, who lost to the eventual US Open champion in the quarterfinals the last two years, served brilliantly. He had fewer aces than Malisse, but with speed and placement was able to get the upper hand. Midway through the third set, Roddick had won 52 of the 56 points played on his serve, holding at love in nine of 13 games.

Roddick then faced break points trailing 4-3 and 5-4 (Malisse had two set points), but pushed the third set into a tiebreaker.

The American, who turned 21 Saturday, trailed 5-3 in the tiebreaker but won the final four points. The match ended when Malisse sent a backhand volley into the net.

Earlier in the day, fans were desperate to see some tennis. The smattering of fans on hand for Argentine Paola Suarez's quarterfinal against American Lindsay Davenport applauded the prematch coin toss. Alas, when the warmup finished, the court was too wet, and the players walked off. They never got a chance to hit a shot.

"It hurts everyone. It hurts the players, it hurts the fans, it hurts the TV network, it hurts the sport," TV analyst John McEnroe said.

The likelihood of finishing the event by Sunday grew slimmer, and Kantarian, Earley and other officials met with representatives of the ATP Tour, WTA Tour and TV broadcasters for 2 1/2 hours.

They drew up a tentative calendar to complete the tournament by Sunday, adding a night session Friday, with the women's semifinals starting at 8 p.m. *AP*

Carlisle back as Pacers head coach

INDIANAPOLIS—Rick Carlisle, the NBA coach of the year for 2002, returned home as head coach of the Indiana Pacers Wednesday, back to the team he served as an assistant three seasons ago.

Fired as coach of the Detroit Pistons after leading them to the best record in the Eastern Conference last season, Carlisle replaces Isiah Thomas, who was sacked last week by Pacers' president of basketball operations, Larry Bird.

"I'm obviously thrilled to be back in Indiana with an opportunity to work for the Pacers," said 43-year-old Carlisle, who helped them to the franchise's first trip to the NBA Finals in 1999-2000.

"I said when I left, this is one of the best jobs in professional sports and my opinion hasn't changed." *Reuters*

STICK ON CRAZE! WIN A CASH!
DARLINGTON®
WALANG HIMULMOL SA LOOB NG SAKONG!
2003 Asia-Pacific Excellence Awards
OUTSTANDING SOCKS MAKER
THE FIRST & THE ORIGINAL OFFICIAL SOCKS OF THE PBA

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS!
4th Monthly Draw - August 29, 2003

Name:	Stub #	Address:	Prize:
1. Jose R. Pueblo	0043389	Pasig City	P1,000.00
2. Lito Macaspac	0013866	Tondo, Manila	P1,000.00
3. Ramon Cabailo	0008505	Proj.4, Quezon City	P1,000.00
4. Ronnie Ortiz	0003666	Alaminos, Pangasinan	P1,000.00
5. Rolando N. Valenzuela	0053879	Sta. Lucia, Marikina	P1,000.00
6. Ma. Erlinda R.Surtida	0019094	San Pedro,Laguna	P1,000.00
7. Victoria Maniclang	0019158	Tondo, Manila	P1,000.00
8. Donna G. Dionisio	0007702	Dasmariñas, Cavite	P1,000.00
9. Ma. Razel G. Demicais	0014054	Caloocan City	P1,000.00
10. Ma. Elena T. Niegas	0018011	Makati City	P1,000.00
11. Fritzie M. Azer	0004793	Iriga City	P1,000.00
12. Hazel V. Prestado	0007769	San Nicolas, Batangas	P1,000.00
13. Ma. Luisa Cosue	0008972	Parañaque City	P1,000.00
14. Rebecca B. Balaong	0001583	Las Piñas City	P1,000.00
15. Ma. Rosa Buenaventura	0006184	Catmon, Malolos City	P1,000.00
16. Kenneth L. Calomot	0008488	Cubao, Quezon City	P1,000.00
17. Lorna B. Cornejo	0019524	Mandaluyong City	P1,000.00
18. Priscilla Esmeña	0051693	Tondo, Manila	P1,000.00
19. Avelina R. Taggaoa	0029995	Bangui, Ilocos Norte	P1,000.00
20. Jose Diesta	0043398	Quezon City	P1,000.00

Per DTI-NCR Permit No 0251 Series of 2003

SPORTSWATCH

Avia USA holds 10-k run

A NEW-running experience will be presented by the Avia USA 10K Oct. 12. Avia USA marketing consultant Rellie de Leon announced this yesterday after finalizing the details of the 10-k race, which eyes a running cast of 3,000 for its initial staging. "We want the feel and aura of the New York Marathon happening in our Avia USA race. It will be not just a running event on the race track but a spectacle off it, with a festive atmosphere that can surely captivate the entire family to join us," said De Leon. Aside from the 10k and 5k divisions, there will be an exhibition from cheering competition champion St. Anthony School. TV and movie stars Aubrey Miles and Angel Locsin are expected to join the race and entertain the crowd.

Subic hosts triathlons

THE 2004 Asian Triathlon Championship (ATC) and 11th Subic Bay International Triathlon (Subit) both at the Subic Bay Freezone highlight the Triathlon Association of the Philippines robust program for 2004.Tom Carrasco, TRAP president and Asian Triathlon Confederation executive member, announced this yesterday during the TRAP's 2004 program launch at the Suburbia Manila in Malate. Slated April 3-4, the ATC is the continental qualifying event for the 2004 Athens Olympic Games while the Subit set May 30 is an International Triathlon Union point race where top finishers get points for their world ranking.

Santo Tomas; UE win

SANTO Tomas struggled against a vastly improved Mapua eleven for 45 minutes before scoring a 4-0 decision last Sunday in the Ang Liga tournament at the UST pitch in Manila. In the other match, University of the East roared back from a 0-1 deficit to beat University of the Philippines, 3-1. Mapua, which lost 8-0 to San Beda and 5-0 to Ateneo in its first two games, proved to be a tough nut to crack for the Growling Tigers, who could not find their mark in the first half. But Lord Jay Legpitan, who scored twice, Tomas Liao and Ricardo Becite turned on the heat in the second half to blank the Cardinals. A 17th minute goal by UP's striker Ariel Zerrudo stunned UE, but coach Casper Ngo's boys switched their attack to the wings and punished UP with goals by Rolly Perez in 65th and 75th minutes and by Alvin Valeroso in the 82nd. It was UE's second win in the tournament.

ABC booters rout rivals

DIPOLOG CITY—Reigning titlist Andres Bonifacio College and Zamboanga del Norte National High posted contrasting wins recently to gain the finals of the provincial Coke Go-for-Goal under-16 football tournament at the ABC field here. The ABC boys blasted Barcelona National High, 10-0, but the Zambo del Norte booters had to struggle in overtime before knocking out Olingan Central School, 4-2, via a penalty shootout.

Olivarez College triumphs

DENNIS Dominden banged in 22 points as Olivarez College handed La Salle Manila its second straight loss, 78-73, in the Universities and College Athletic Association men's basketball tournament at the DLSU Sports Complex in Malate. It was Olivarez College's second win in five games. Olivarez braces for a noon showdown with PSBA at the Tanduay gym. The St. Francis Doves remain ahead in the standing at 5-0 following a 93-78 victory over Emilio Aguinaldo College.

Jeepster tops drag race

THE JEEPSTER topped anew the Petron Blaze Shootout Drag Race Championship series held last Saturday in Clarkfield Pampanga. Audel Sison of Autocraft posted a time of 13.632 in his Jeepster to take the first place in the Quick 8 category. Second-placer is John Dionisio of Team Bagspeed whose run in his Charade recorded a time of 14.25. Michael dela Cruz, driving a Honda Civic for Team Bolt-On Performance, ranked first in the Sportsman category.

Dayrit, Buhain in Scoop

TODAY'S Scoop sa Kamayan will have Philippine Olympic Committee president Celso Dayrit and Philippine Sports Commission chair Eric Buhain as guests at the Kamayan Restaurant on West Avenue in Quezon City. The session, sponsored by Photokina Marketing, starts at 11 a.m. and will be aired live on Sports Radio.

5-stag derby at PCC

PASAY City Cockpit will stage a 5-stag derby at 7 p.m. today. The 60-fight event hosted by PCC pit manager Eric dela Rosa is sponsored by Sagupaan Hammer, Sagupaan Mite Free and Sagupaan B-50 Forten. Entry fee is P15,000. Meanwhile, Boy de Roca's 4-stag event will be held on Sept. 12, followed by a 5-stag event on Sept. 19. For details, contact 843-1890, 843-1746 and 816-6750.

RACING TIPS

AT SLLP BY MR. 999

Race 1--1. Ginger Spice 2. Three of Heart 3. Ongbee 4. Assunta de Rio

Race 2--1. Hurricane Doding 2. Queen of Gala 3. Ponchito 4. Love and Kisses 5. Main Street

Race 3--1. Aprey Special 2. Pen Tristram 3. Master Professor 4. St. Emilion 5. La Española

Race 4--1. Golden Lance 2. Pep Talk 3. Yours Truly

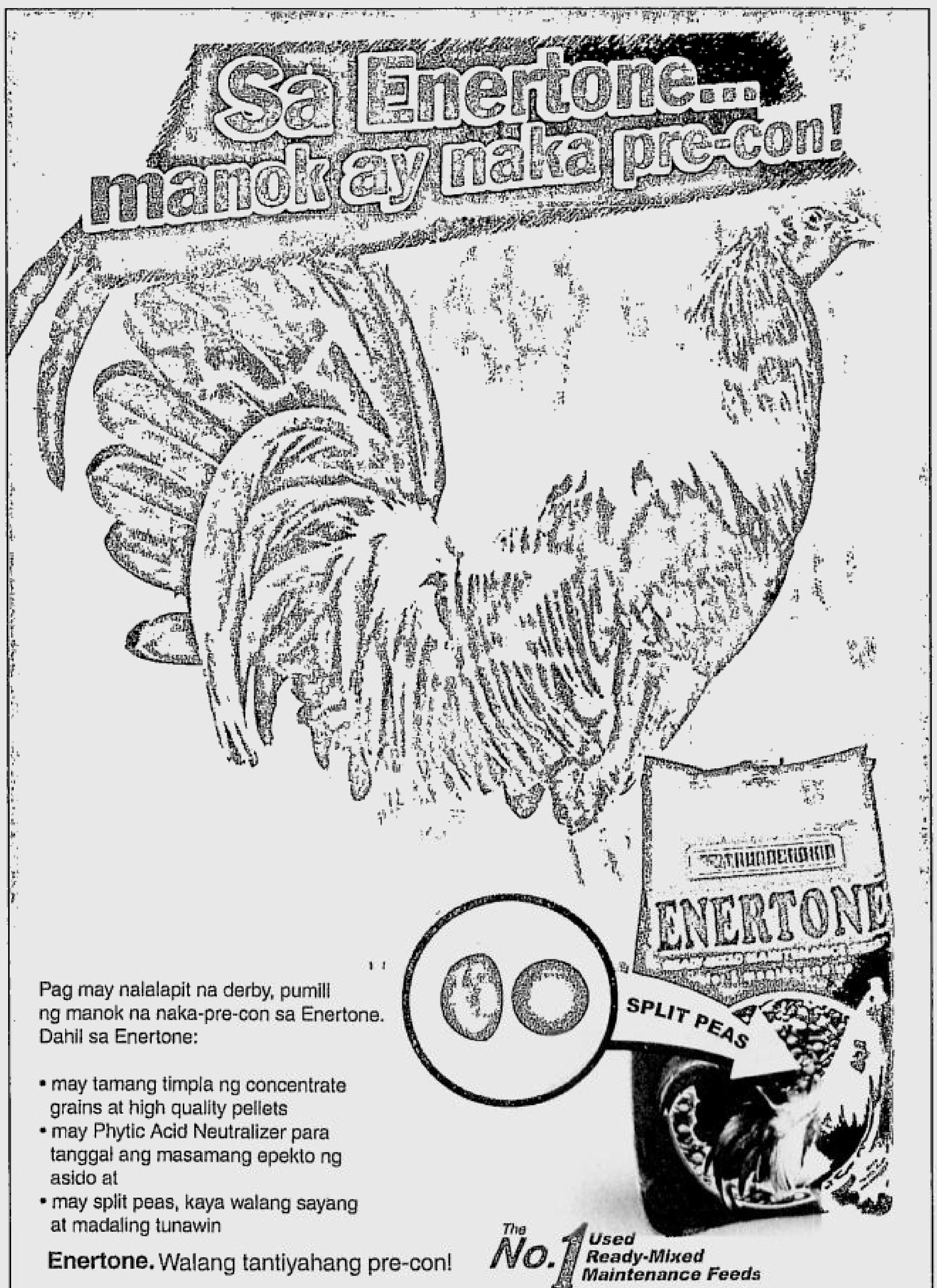
Race 5--1. Island King 2. Golden Figure 3. Show Affection 4. Dynamite Jack 5. Sunny Sky

Race 6--1. Advance Party 2. Earl Gray 3. Powerhouse 4. Musika/Dynamite Miss

Race 7--1. Joshua Tree 2. Candy's Angel 3. Bakasan 4. Jessie James 5. Red Rose 6. Bvigari

Race 8--1. Scene Stealer 2. Lady Victoria 3. Summit Force 4. Silver Lining 5. Better King

Race 9--1. Material Maker 2. Gemstone 3. Velocity 4. Mrs. Big 5. Silver Rose 6. Super Sharp


Sa Enertone...
manok ay naka pre-con!
ENERTONE
SPLIT PEAS

Pag may nalalapit na derby, pumili ng manok na naka-pre-con sa Enertone. Dahil sa Enertone:

- may tamang timpla ng concentrate grains at high quality pellets
- may Phytic Acid Neutralizer para tanggal ang masamang epekto ng asido at
- may split peas, kaya walang sayang at madaling tunawin

Enertone. Walang tantiyahang pre-con!

The No.1 Used Ready-Mixed Maintenance Feeds

THUNDERBIRD

ENERTONE
WITH PHYTIC ACID NEUTRALIZER

ALL DIGITAL SOUND

AYALA CINEMAS PRESENTS

G1 GLORIETTA 1
1 PINAY PIE
2 S.W.A.T.
3 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN

G4 GLORIETTA 4
1 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
2 S.W.A.T.
THX GUARANTEED SEATS 3 S.W.A.T. 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30
4 SPY KIDS 3D
5 SINBAD
LEGALLY BLONDE 2
7 PINAY PIE

GB1 GREENBELT 1
ArtFilm
1 PINAY PIE 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
2 S.W.A.T. 12:45, 3:10, 5:35, 8:10
BEAUTY & THE BEAST (THE MUSICAL PLAY) Sept 18 - 7PM

GB3 GREENBELT 3
THX GUARANTEED SEATS 1 LEGALLY BLONDE 2 11:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30
THX GUARANTEED SEATS 2 S.W.A.T. 1:25, 4:00, 6:25, 8:55, 11:15
GUARANTEED SEATS 3 THE ITALIAN JOB 1:40, 4:05, 6:30, 8:50, 11:20
GUARANTEED SEATS SINBAD - 1:30, 3:30, 5:30 S.W.A.T. - 7:20, 9:35, 12:00
GUARANTEED SEATS 5 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN

ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER
THX 1 S.W.A.T.
2 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
3 PINAY PIE
4 SINBAD
5 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN

For sreening times, call 729-7777. Movies are subject to change without prior notice. Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 and send to 2333. Or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING
EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 ITALIAN JOB
2 SWAT
3 SINBAD
4 LEGALLY BLONDE-2
5 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
6 SWAT
7 SPY KIDS-3D
8 FINDING NEMO
9 PINAY PIE
10 WWW.XXX.COM

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486
1 RESERVE
2 RESERVE
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE
5 RESERVE
6 RESERVE
Golden Pearl THX RESERVE

Masagana CINEMA 1 2 3 4
(Pasay) tel 833.3290, 833.3274
1 PINAY PIE
2 SWAT
3 WWW.XXX.COM

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Mandaluyong) tel 724.4986
1 PINAY PIE
2 SWAT
3 LEGALLY BLONDE-2
4 DOLBY DIGITAL PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
5 WWW.XXX.COM

METROPOLIS star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Alabang) tel 850.4285
1 NEW BLOOD
2 WWW.XXX.COM
3 PINAY PIE
4 SWAT
5 LEGALLY BLONDE-2
6 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN

star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Las Pinas) tel 873.5004
1 SWAT
2 VISIBLE SECRET

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) TEL. 893-4225, 892-2503

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENTLEMEN
2 BULLET PROOF MONK

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL
tel 930.9515
1
2
3

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) TEL. 776-74-21
1 SWAT
2 WWW.XXX.COM
3
4

GOTESCO CINEMA

Gotesco City
(Manila) tel 734.8588
1 PINAY PIE
4 RESERVE
5 NEW BLOOD
6 WWW.XXX.COM
7 LEGALLY BLONDE-2
8 SWAT
9 SINBAD

Gotesco Caloocan
tel 362.3508
2 RESERVE

Gotesco Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 365.7928
1 WWW.XXX.COM
2 PINAY PIE
3 PINAY PIE
4 SWAT
5 SINBAD
6 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
7 LEGALLY BLONDE-2
8 NEW BLOOD
9 SPY KIDS-3D

Gotesco Commonwealth
tel 951.0082
1 WWW.XXX.COM
2 SWAT
3 PINAY PIE
4 SWAT
5 LEGALLY BLONDE 2

Gotesco Ortigas
tel 656.6795
1 PINAY PIE
2 LEGALLY BLONDE-2
3 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
4 WWW.XXX.COM
5 SWAT

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470
1 RESERVE

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888
1 RESERVE

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724
Dilson
Lords
Jennet RESERVE

MAKRENIAL Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 SWAT
2 PINAY PIE
3 WWW.XXX.COM
4 LEGALLY BLONDE

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238
1 SWAT
2 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
3 LEGALLY BLONDE-2
4 PINAY PIE
5 WWW.XXX.COM

FRC Cinema
(Talaba Bacoor Cavite)
1 RESERVE
2 RESERVE

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 · 879.2029
1 WWW.XXX.COM
2 PINAY PIE

THE CENTER OF ENTERTAINMENT
Araneta

MALL CINEPLEX 7
tel 911.3101 loc. 821,8242,8400
1 WWW.XXX.COM
2 PINAY PIE
3 DOLBY DIGITAL PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
4 SDDS SWAT
5 DTS SPY KIDS-3D
6 SINBAD
7 LEGALLY BLONDE 2

FarmersPlaza CINEMAS
tel 911.3101 loc. 821,8242,8400
1 RESERVE
2 RESERVE

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
TEL. (049) 837-0926
1 MOTEL
2 PINAY PIE
3 SWAT

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 SINBAD
2 PINAY PIE
3 SWAT
4 LEGALLY BLONDE-2

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146
1 PINAY PIE
2 SWAT
3 LEGALLY BLONDE-2
4 SINBAD

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel (075) 568.6771
1 KEKA
2 PINAY PIE
3 FINDING NEMO
4

Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 PINAY PIE
2 WWW.XXX.COM
3 A WALKING IN RENO
4 FINDING NEMO

Magic Star Cinema
(Tarlac City) tel (045) 611.4305
1 PINAY PIE
2 WWW.XXX.COM
3 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 SWAT
2 BIGAY HILIG
3 WWW.XXX.COM
4 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 SWAT
2 PINAY PIE
3 LEGALLY BLONDE-2
4 MOTEL
5 SINBAD

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883
1 LEGALLY BLONDE-2
2 MOTEL
3 RESERVE

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249.2558
1 LEGALLY BLONDE-2
2 PINAY PIE
3 FINDING NEMO

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283
1 A VIEW FROM THE TOP
2 PINAY PIE
3 WWW.XXX.COM
4 NAKED WEAPON

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808
1 RESERVE
2 RESERVE

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657
1 MOTEL
2 PINAY PIE
3 RESERVE

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 ALEX & EMMA
2 DARK WATER
3 SPY KIDS-3D
4 PINAY PIE

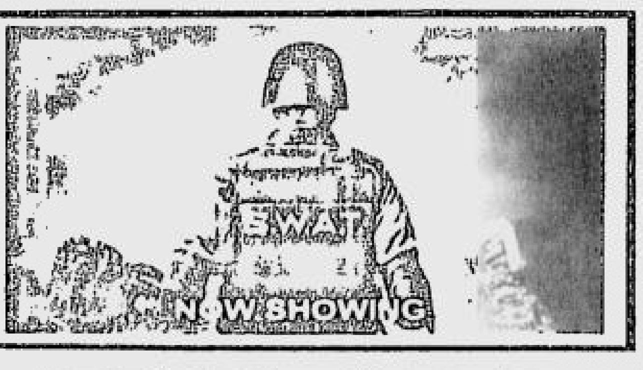
Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887-5001 TO 03
1 SWAT
2 PINAY PIE
3 LEGALLY BLONDE-2
4 SINBAD

Cine Nepo Mall
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887-0121
1 PINAY PIE
2 SINBAD
3 SWAT
4 LEGALLY BLONDE 2

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

FESTIVAL Level 4
Festival Supermall
Filinvest Alabang
Tel 85035-71 to 72
Schedule subject to change without prior notice



SM CINEMA
SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 833-9999
NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR
4173888
1 ITALIAN JOB
2 WWW.XXX.COM
3 S.W.A.T.
4 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
5 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
6 PINAY PIE
7 SPY KIDS 3-D
8 SINBAD

SM CENTERPOINT
7149522 -7161416
1 PINAY PIE
2 ITALIAN JOB
3 S.W.A.T.
4 WWW.XXX.COM
5 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
6 NEW BLOOD
7 SPY KIDS 3-D
8 SINBAD
9 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
10 LXG

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749
1 SPY KIDS 3-D
2 VISIBLE SECRET
3 ITALIAN JOB
4 S.W.A.T.
5 SINBAD
6 PINAY PIE
7 FINDING NEMO
8 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
9 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
10 PINAY PIE
11 LXG
12 WWW.XXX.COM

SM CITY MANILA
5239240
1 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
3 SINBAD
4 S.W.A.T.
5 SPY KIDS 3-D
6 S.W.A.T.
7 WWW.XXX.COM
8 LXG
9 PINAY PIE
10 NEW BLOOD
11 ITALIAN JOB
12 PINAY PIE

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401
1 (FOR SEAT RESERVATION, CALL 6830638) CLOSED
2 SINBAD
3 S.W.A.T.
4 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
5 FINDING NEMO
6 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
7 LXG
8 SPY KIDS 3-D
9 PINAY PIE
10 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
11 ITALIAN JOB
12 NEW BLOOD

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452
1 NEW BLOOD
2 SINBAD
3 WWW.XXX.COM
4 PINAY PIE
5 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
6 S.W.A.T.
7 SPY KIDS 3-D
8 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN

SM SOUTHMALL
8066888
1 SINBAD
2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
3 S.W.A.T.
4 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
5 ITALIAN JOB
6 NEW BLOOD
7 PINAY PIE
8 S.W.A.T.
9 SPY KIDS 3-D
10 WWW.XXX.COM

SM CITY CEBU
2313876
1 S.W.A.T.
2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
3 ITALIAN JOB
4 SINBAD
5 VIEW FROM THE TOP
6 FINDING NEMO
7 PINAY PIE
8 S.W.A.T.

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422
1 LXG
2 RESERVED
3 PINAY PIE
4 FINDING NEMO
5 SINBAD
6 ITALIAN JOB
7 RESERVED
8 NAKED WEAPON

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015
1 S.W.A.T.
2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
3 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
4 WWW.XXX.COM
5 SINBAD
6 PINAY PIE

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975
1 SINBAD
2 PINAY PIE
3 S.W.A.T.
4 LEGALLY BLONDE 2

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302
1 S.W.A.T.
2 WWW.XXX.COM
3 PINAY PIE
4 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN

SM CITY DAVAO
2976998
1 ITALIAN JOB
2 FINDING NEMO
3 PINAY PIE
4 PINAY PIE
5 SINBAD
6 ITALIAN JOB

SM BICUTAN
776-3055
1 S.W.A.T.
2 PINAY PIE
3 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
4 SINBAD

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
859-2884
1 ITALIAN JOB
2 WWW.XXX.COM
3 PINAY PIE
4 BANGKOK HAUNTED

THE PODIUM CINEMA
633-8976
1 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
10:00 FS/10:10 MF/12:05/2:00/4:00/6:00/8:00/9:35
LFS/10:00 LMF/11:35 END
2 S.W.A.T.
10:50 FS/11:20 MF/1:40/4:00/6:20/8:40/10:35
LFS/11:00 LMF/12:55 END

LATE NIGHT SCREENING DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS
Matinee : P100.00 • Screening until 5pm • Monday thru Friday
Regular Rate P120.00 • After 5pm • Saturday • Sunday • Holidays (Reserved Seating) 6338976

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS
@ Robinsons Malls
NOW SHOWING

Galleria
632-9115 TO 16
633-7641 LOC. 195

THX /All Digital
1 S.W.A.T 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
4 S.W.A.T. 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
THX
2 THE LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENTLEMEN 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
5 PINAY PIE 10:35, 12:50, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50
3 SINBAD-LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SEAS 10:50, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:50
6 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
7 ITALIAN JOB 12.05, 2.15, 4:25, 6.40, 9:00
9 SPY KIDS 3D 10:35, 12.50, 3:05 5:20, 7:35, 9:50
8 LEGALLY BLONDE 2 10:50, 1:00, 3.10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:50
10 WWW.XXX.COM 10:35, 12:50, 3:05 5:20, 7.35, 9:50

MATINEE PRICE: P90 THX cinema / P75 level cinema
Mon.- Fri. / 10am - 4pm (EXCEPT HOLIDAYS)

Ermita
536-717809 TO 13
1 S.W.A.T - 10:10, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
2 Pirates of the Carribean - 10:20, 1:10, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40, 12:00
3 WWW.XXX.COM 10:10, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
4 SINBAD- 10:15, 12:05, 2:00, 3:55, 5:50, 7:45, 9:40
5 SPY KIDS 3D - 10:30, 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45
6 PINAY PIE - 10:20, 12:35, 2:50, 5:05, 7:20, 9:40
7 LEGALLY BLONDE - 2 10:15, 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:40

Metro East
Marcos Hway
682-8193; 682-8199; 682-8280
1 ITALIAN JOB
2 S.W.A.T.
3 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
4 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
5 SPY KIDS 3D
6 PINAY PIE
7 SINBAD-LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SEAS
8 WWW.XXX.COM

Novaliches
935-3229/31
1 SINBAD--LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SEAS
2 ITALIAN JOB
3 WWW.XXX.COM
4 S.W.A.T.
5 SPY KIDS 3D
6 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
7 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
8 PINAY PIE

Malabon
288-0985
288-2575
1 WWW.XXX.COM
2 PINAY PIE
3 S.W.A.T.
4 LEGALLY BLONDE 2

Star Mills
(045) 875-1927
(045) 961-5270
1 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
2 PINAY PIE
3 LEGALLY BLONDE
4 WWW.XXX.COM
5 SINBAD-LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SEAS
6 S.W.A.T.

Imus
(046) 471-8188
(046) 875-5858
1 S.W.A.T
2 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
3 SINBAD-LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SEAS
4 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
5 PINAY PIE
6 WWW.XXX.COM

Sta. Rosa
(049) 837-09-07
1 PINAY PIE
2 S.W.A.T.
3 SINBAD-LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SEAS
4 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
5 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN

Bacolod
(034) 441-0458-59
1 ITALIAN JOB
2 ALEX AND EMMA
3 PINAY PIE
4 FINDING NEMO
5 WAKING UP IN RENO
6 NENA INOSENTE

Iloilo
(033) 336-8070/78
1 ITALIAN JOB
2 VIEW FROM THE TOP
3 PINAY PIE
4 SINBAD--LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SEAS
5 WAKING UP IN RENO
6 NAKED WEAPON

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor **Louie C. Camino**

'Apparition' star Judiel Nieva is now a show biz star

By Mozart Pastrano
Contributor

A YOUNG man (inset) looking up to the heavens for guidance while a multitude holds its breath in La Union in 1993 has turned into an "Angel" (above in TV grab from "The Buzz").

YOU think being a teenage "visionary" who could see the Virgin Mary and receive her messages was the greatest performance of Judiel Nieva's life? Well, where were you Sunday night?

During show biz-y ceremonies at the University of the Philippines Film Center in Diliman last Sunday, Nieva, —now 26 and going by the name Angel de la Vega, made his screen debut with the premiere showing of the film "Siklo."

In it, he plays Angel, a woman who falls in love with her new neighbor, a young man named Mark (played by the boyish VJ Mark Ocampo) who loves to toy around with a video camera. A crucial scene showed the two making love: sensual shots of flesh, sweat, and passionate kissing in the grassy outdoors.

"*Nahihiya nga ako*," Nieva said after the screening. "*May* love scene *ako*, *may* kissing scene, *may* violent scene *pa*."

But screenwriter Ricky Lee, who attended the premiere, generously praised Nieva's performance: "*Sa* acting, she's a natural. Some of the actors in the film were raw, others were weak, but Angel was a natural. The only performance that outdid hers was that of Chanda Romero, and Chanda is a veteran."

With heart-tugging under-acting, Romero played a woman dying of cancer.

Written and directed as a *telesine* episode by ABS-CBN Pulse Team Research creative consultant Rahyan Carlos, "Siklo" tells the story of a support group's members welcoming a new member, Angel, into their fold by sharing their personal secrets. It's the usual tear-jerker stuff: gay relationships, unwanted pregnancy, infidelity, the dark side of fan mentality, domestic drama, and impending death.

The film, however, banks on an uncanny twist in the narrative that pegs it to have been inspired by recent horror movies like "The Others."

Sunday afternoon, Nieva was on the show biz talk show "The Buzz," where host Kris Aquino asked, "*Nagpapakita pa ba si* Mama Mary *sa 'yo*?"

When Nieva, dressed in a black tube, replied in the affirmative, Aquino began to discuss his wardrobe.

During the Sunday night premiere, Nieva wore a jacket, a tube, and pants, all color-coordinated in trendy blue denim. He went onstage just before the screening to sing "The Prayer" with a male partner, and "Forever" with another male partner.

Nieva's fans, which included children, screamed and waved enlarged photos of himself and posters saying, "Our Angel."

During the screening, Nieva sat beside actor Lou Veloso, who directed him in a *cenaculo* production at Intramuros last summer. "First time *ko pang mapanood ito*," Nieva explained as he laughed at his fellow actors onscreen.

When he saw a scene where a basketball player gave a therapeutic massage to another player, Nieva giggled, "*Ang landi!*"

He kept an ongoing litany of reactions while watching the film, even to the point of telling his seatmate the film's surprise element.

Director Carlos admitted to having enjoyed working with Nieva. "I admire her sense of professionalism. *Dumarating siya sa* shooting."

The film was made with two shooting days (mostly at the building of the Philippine Information Agency) and a budget of P200,000.

"Siklo" is the graduation project of a workshop conducted by Grupong Tinta, a group of film practitioners whose facilitators include Carlito Siguion-Reyna, Mel Chionglo, Malou de Guzman, and Bodjie Pascua.

Nieva attended the workshop together with two of the talents he handles: Leonard Nagana, 13, and Archie Magsibay, 17, of his Angel Talent Ad Management Co.

"God gave me this talent, and I will share it with others," Nieva said. "*Huwag na nating pag-usapan ang nakaraan*. Allow me *naman* to move on.

"Last July," he added, "I was in a car accident, but it's a miracle, *ni galos wala ako, pati* driver *ko*. Second life *ko na ito*. I need to put my life on, not off."

In "Siklo," his character wakes up in a hospital room. A doctor exclaims, "It's a miracle! You're alive!"

Ten years after Nieva's alleged apparitions in Agoo, La Union created a sensation in the country, the star of that show is now in show biz.

Brad Pitt as voice actor

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

DURING one of our visits to DreamWorks in Los Angeles, producer **Jeffrey Katzenberg** stressed in our interview the importance of "voice actors" in the making of a full-length animation feature. They don't provide just the voice, but also the entire persona and even the soul of the character they voice-act.

Thus, the choice of principal voice talents is one of the "defining" decisions in the entire process. Especially these days, when animators often pattern their visual characterizations on the actors who voice those roles.

For instance, when DreamWorks' latest animation feature, "Sinbad: Legend of the Seven Seas," was being made, the animators worked closely with **Brad Pitt**, who voiced the lead role.

They observed all of his movements as he delivered his lines in the sound studio, and appreciated the fact that, even if he was only doing the dialogue, he involved himself fully in the character he was portraying.

In fact, Pitt was so taken by his screen character that he took to calling him Sin Brad.

The visual artists feel that they have captured a few "Bradisms," and have incorporated them in their work. While Sinbad onscreen may not look like Brad, he moves like him.

Why did Brad decide to work on an animated movie?

"First, because I wanted my nephews and nieces to see 'me' in a fun movie. Second, because the animation world is so sophisticated now. They are really at the top of their game, with some of the best artists ending up in that genre. Third, because Jeffrey Katzenberg is producing, and he's the best there is—so, you're sure to get it right!"

How difficult was it for him to adjust to the demands of vocal acting?

"Well, my voice isn't my strongest point. I don't have a theater background, so I didn't get to appreciate placement, projection, vocal variety, that sort of thing. So, I was a bit surprised when they asked me. But I agreed to do it to see what it was all about. I was a little on my left foot when I started, but I quickly adapted!"

Marian vigil

THE MANAOAG Parish Community, spearheaded by PREX leaders, will hold a Marian vigil on Sept. 7 from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. in Manaoag, Pangasinan. Invited speakers, BEC representatives, Marian music and the Holy Mass will highlight the celebration. The theme is "Aming Alay sa Inyo, Inay Maria." Fr. **Patricio** Apa, OP, parish priest, and his associate Dominican priests support the special occasion.

All parishioners and other devotees of Our Lady are enjoined to celebrate this Marian vigil leading up to her birthday, Sept. 8.

'A Taste of Mexico'

THE LAUNCH of "A Taste of Mexico" food festival will be held on Sept. 11 at the Hyatt Regency Manila's Café Al Fresco. The guest honor is H.E. **Enrique Hubbard**, the Ambassador of Mexico to the Philippines.

The "A Taste of Mexico" festival runs until Sept. 28.

Shows on AXN

TONIGHT at 9 p.m., "The Sixth Day," starring **Arnold Schwarzenegger**, has its TV premiere screening on AXN. In the action thriller, *two* Arnolds battle it out with each other.

Playing a man who escapes death only to return home to find his life stolen by a clone, Schwarzenegger has to fight his greatest enemy—himself.

AXN is also pleased to announce that the second season of "Alias" (Tuesdays, 9 p.m.) has just started telecasting on the action channel. The show has been nominated 11 times at the Emmy Awards, and stars Golden Globe winner **Jennifer Garner**.

Finally, on Sept. 26 at 10 p.m., Schwarzenegger and Garner join other stars like **Harrison Ford**, **Quentin Tarantino**, **Eric Bana**, **Vin Diesel** and **Carrie-Ann Moss** paying tribute to the best in action in "World Stunt Awards 2003."

Hollywood celebrities will perform spectacular stunts live, starting with the host, **Dennis Hopper**, who will lead a high-speed chase on motorcycle through the streets of Los Angeles, before ending in a fiery crash onstage.

Jennifer Garner and **Michelle Rodriguez**, now starring in the hit movie "S.W.A.T.," make similarly spectacular entrances, as do **Kelly Hu**, **David Arquette**, **Dwayne Johnson** and other presentors.

Nominees come from blockbusters like "Spiderman," "XXX," "Gangs of New York," "Die Another Day," "Minority Report," "The Bourne Identity" and "Blade II." They are competing in a variety of categories, including Best Fight, Best Fire Stunt and Best Work with a Vehicle.

Harrison Ford receives an honorary award for his work in action films.

Gary V and his middle child Gabriel energize Music Museum 'Hits' series

OF THE three children of Mr. Pure Energy Gary Valenciano, the one in the middle, Gabriel, 15, has apparently acquired Gary's flair and energy for dancing.

A junior high school student at La Salle Greenhills, Gab joins his dad's performances when his schedule allows.

The sight of father and son dancing together is like watching Gary dancing with his younger self.

See Gary and Gabriel together in "Gary V Hits Music Museum" tonight and tomorrow night at 9 p.m. Gary performs revivals and current hits arranged by himself and by multiawarded Mon Faustino, including the music of Stevie Wonder, Earth Wind and Fire, Vanessa Carlton, James Ingram, Chicago, as well as his own original hits, with the Powerplay and a horn section, the Ugoy-Ugoy Band.

Produced by Manila Genesis Entertainment and GV Productions Inc. for Manna Entertainment, the Gary V series is presented by RPN 9 and Globe Handyphone.

Other major sponsors are Alaska Milk, ABS Bitter Herbs, Air Philippines, Evolution Series by Sennheiser, Anonymous, MTV Philippines, Njork, Goldilocks, Universal Records, Dr. Vivian Sarabia, Essensuals Hairdressing, Technomarine and media partners.

Beneficiaries are Unicef and the Shining Light Foundation.

For ticket inquiries, call Genesis at 725-1937 or 723-5593, Ticketworld at 891-5610, Music Museum at 721-6726, or check www.ticketworld.com, www.manilagenesis.com and www.garyv.com.

Gary V's other kids are Paolo, 18, and Kiana, 10.

CHAD BORJA, Pops' special guest

New Pops, Chad in 'Crossover'

SHOW TIME

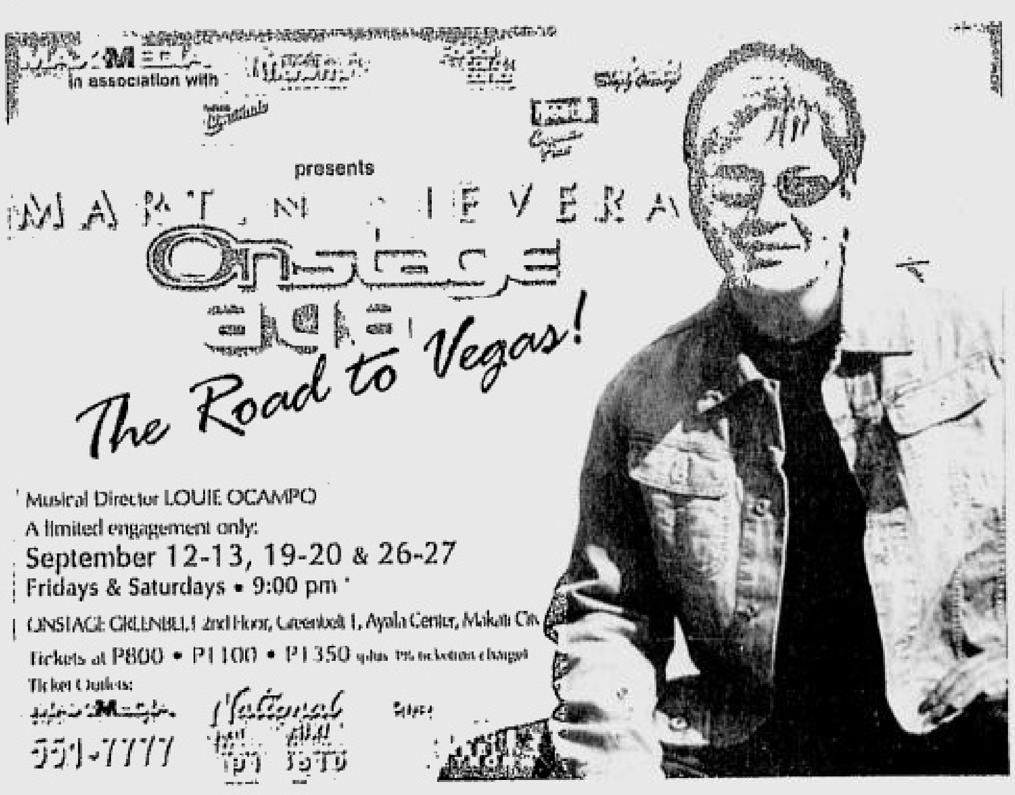
KNOWN for being a chameleon with her ever-changing style, Pops Fernandez extends her metamorphosis to her music. On Thursday, Sept. 11, at the Captain's Bar of the Mandarin Oriental, Pops will set aside her pop song and dance repertoire for an elegant and relaxing evening, in 105.1 Crossover's Crossover Presents.

This concert will be special for all followers of the Concert Queen who can witness their idol up close singing songs that have never been done in her other shows. It will show a different musical side of Pops, full of soothing, romantic tunes.

Joining Pops are some of the country's finest musicians: Bond Samson, Mel Villena, Bobby Taylo, Roy Mercado, and Cezar Aguas as musical director.

Special guest is balladeer Chad Borja.

For ticket inquiries, call Crossover at 712-9755 or 712-9764, Ticket World at 891-5610, or Captain's Bar at 750-8888. The show is sponsored by Cafe Puro Jade Blend, Cocolife and Nestle Yogurt. Pops' outfit is by Ignacio Loyola and make-up by Fanny Serano.



in association with
presents
MARTIN NIEVERA
Onstage
The Road to Vegas!
Musical Director LOUIE OCAMPO
A limited engagement only:
September 12-13, 19-20 & 26-27
Fridays & Saturdays • 9:00 pm
ONSTAGE GREENBELT 2nd Floor, Greenbelt 1, Ayala Center, Makati City
Tickets at P800 • P1100 • P1350 plus 5% ticketing charge
Ticket Outlets:
551-7777

'MTV Mad Dash' finals tomorrow

SHOW STOPPER

FIVE teams outplayed, outlasted and outwitted everybody at the Eastwood City Walk in Libis last Saturday to be in the finals of "MTV's Mad Dash," the craziest scavenger hunt in town.

All gave their best shot in the 2-km run, wall climbing, obstacle course and pen and paper test. But in the end, only John Aguilar, Retzel Orquiza, Mark Edsel Rodil and Lauren Atupan of Team 1; Thumbie Remigio, Exequiel Naculangan, Stephen Chanco and Rizielle Tangan of Team 2; Kerwin Recalde, Alvin Sanchez, Randy Ypon and Angela Sanchez of Team 3; Marc Leviste, John Gregorio, Illac Diaz and Karismo Velando of Team 4; and Francis Jocson, Yves Gonzales, Leemuel Cuan and Michelle Nocon of Team 5 will move on to "MTV's Mad Dash" finals tomorrow, Sept. 6, at SM Megamall.

Their names were announced during the launch party last Saturday evening. They were congratulated by show biz stars Antoinette Taus, Christian Vasquez, and Kenjie Marquez who will also join them tomorrow together with Jon Hall and Lexi Schulze.

The finalists need to overcome more grueling challenges tomorrow as they pick up clues, read maps, solve puzzles, search for cash, find missing persons, hunt for cars and do other crazy stuff. The action kicks off at SM Megastrip at 6 a.m. and will bring the teams and their celebrity teammates to the Ortigas area for a day of fun and action MTV-style.

Winners will bring home P150,000 in cash plus Smart amazing phones, Caltex gift certificates and Pepsi premium items.

During the victory party, a group of four also gets a chance to win a trip to Boracay.

"Mad Dash" is presented by Vortex, Pepsi X Energy Cola, and Smart.

Video seminar for filmmakers

THE LATEST technology in video editing and DVD authoring for professionals and independent filmmakers will be presented in a seminar at Edsa Shangri-la today.

The event will present the newest techniques and digital effects in non-linear editing in the Matrox RT.X100 Xtreme system. RT.X100 Xtreme is a cost-effective and powerful system that even amateur digital filmmakers and first-timer videographers can use.

Banbros Commercial Inc. is the local distributor of Matrox products.

The seminar will demonstrate how participants' video projects can be enhanced with all the impressive real-time capabilities of the Matrox RT.X100 Xtreme.

Interested parties may call Banbros Commercial at 727-3009, or log on to www.banbros.ph, or email nina@banbros.ph.

DID YOU KNOW...

Award-winning theater actress **Lea Salonga** has the Evanessence album in repeat on her car stereo. She said her fiance, **Robert Chien,** introduced her to hard rock and R&B. Lea and Robert are set to tie the knot on Jan. 10, 2004 in Los Angeles.

Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX 7

Ali 1	NOON AT NGAYON
Ali 2	PINAY PIE
Ali 3	PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
Ali 4	SWAT
Ali 5	SPY KIDS 3
Ali 6	SINBAD
Ali 7	LEGALLY BLONDE

ARANETA COLISEUM

SEPT 6	UAAP CHEERING COMPETITION
SEPT 10	UCAP 7-STAG DERBY
SEPT 11	UAAP GAMES: UST VS. UE
SEPT 12	UCAP 7-STAG DERBY
SEPT 13	UAAP: ADMU VS. DLSU
SEPT 15 & 17	NCA 7-STAG DERBY

Opens December 2003 DISNEY ON ICE Featuring "Beauty & The Beast"

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

MANILA

EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	SEX BOMB / RAMPADORA
ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE

QUEZON CITY

ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	WWW.XXX.COM
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR

NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA

A	PINAY PIE
B	SEX DRIVE
C	

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 ; 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CINEMA-2	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

CAINTA RIZAL

STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	PINAY PIE
CINEMA-2	TALK TO HER
CINEMA-3	WWW.XXX.COM
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	SWAT
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	FINDING NEMO
CINEMA-6	BIGAY HILIG
CINEMA-7	KEKA
CINEMA-8	ITALIAN JOB
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	LEGALLY BLONDE 2
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	SWAT
CINEMA-12	SINBAD
CINEMA-14	SPY KIDS 3D
CINEMA-15	PINAY PIE

LORES

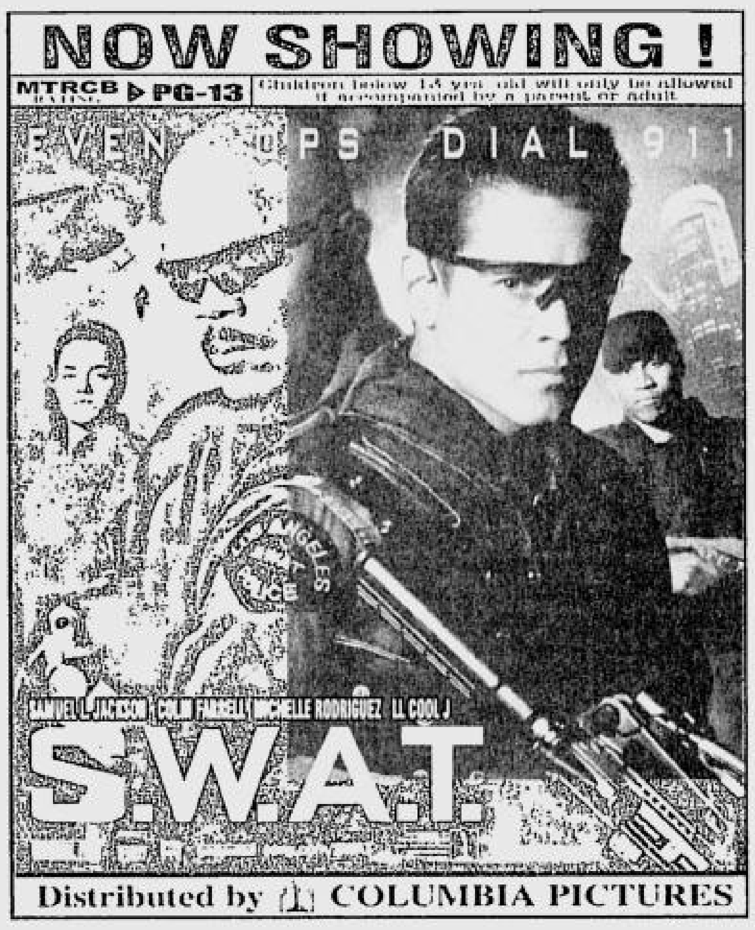
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT

NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN

(LAS PINAS)	PINAY PIE
CINEMA-1	WWW.XXX.COM
CINEMA-2	NAKED WEAPON
CINEMA-4	VIEW FROM THE TOP

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL

(PARANAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA


NOW SHOWING !
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
EVEN COPS DIAL 911
SAMUEL L. JACKSON COLIN FARRELL MICHELLE RODRIGUEZ LL COOL J
S.W.A.T.
Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES

Movie Pass Treat
Movie-watching
just got more
exciting!

Get a Movie Pass Treat Card when you buy a movie ticket in any participating SM Cinema Branches. Watch 4 movies with your Movie Pass Treat card and enjoy your next movie for FREE!

SM CINEMA

Promo runs from September 1 - 7, 2003
SM City Pampanga • SM City Cagayan de Oro • SM City Iloilo • SM Bicutan
See posters for details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit # 3630 Series of 200

THEATRE MALL
GREENHILLS
NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1
S.W.A.T.
11:30, 2:05, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50
P13

CINEMA 2
LEGALLY BLONDE 2
11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 10:00
GP

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

MUSIC MUSEUM
SEPT 5 & 6 GARY V HITS MUSIC MUSEUM 9:00PM
SEPT 12 & 13 ROBERT SENA "SHOWTIME" 9:00PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL: 721-6726 OR 721-0635

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41

PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN PG 13 11:20, 2:00, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00	S.W.A.T. PG13 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20	SINBAD GP 11:50, 1:50, 3:50, 5:50, 7:50, 9:50
SPY KIDS 3D GP 1:00, 3:00, 5:00 S.W.A.T PG13 6:50, 9:20	PINAY PIE PG13 1:10, 3:15, 5:20, 7:25	LEGALLY BLONDE 2 GP 12:00, 2:10, 4:15, 6:20, 8:25, 10:30

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

EVEN COPS DIAL
S.W.A.T.
MOVIEWORLD
September 3
FOR SCREENING TIMES PLS. CALL THE MOVIE ACCESS NO. 635-[illegible]
MTRCB RATING: PG-13
NOW SHOWING
at all robinsons movieworld cinemas

AYALA CENTER · ALABANG TOWN · AYALA CENTER CEBU

Spend an evening of romance and music as Ayala Malls presents jim brickman live

with a special performance by Anna Fegi at Ayala Center Makati and Alabang Town Center, and Rachel Alejandro at Ayala Center Cebu.

Ayala Center Makati
September 11, 7 pm
Glorietta Activity Center

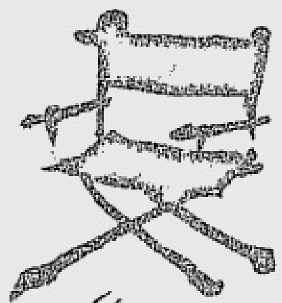
Alabang Town Center
September 12, 7 pm
Corte de las Palmas

Ayala Center Cebu
September 13, 8 pm
Food and Entertainment Center

Admission is free!
Special reserved area for Ayala Discount Plus cardholders
Seating is on a first-come-first-serve basis

Globe · BMG · 92.3

Ayala Malls Because you deserve more


The country's
one and only
private cinema
Now it can be yours.

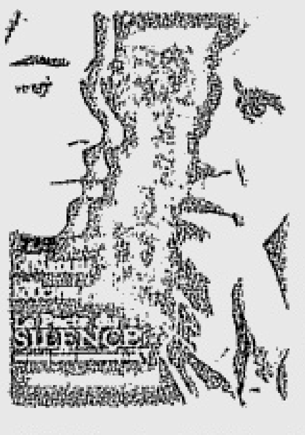
For private movie screenings, intimate parties and impressive presentations.

Package includes Popcorn and Drinks, Parking Passes, Timezone Gamepass & Invitations.

Rates vary depending on Peak, Regular & Off-Peak slots.

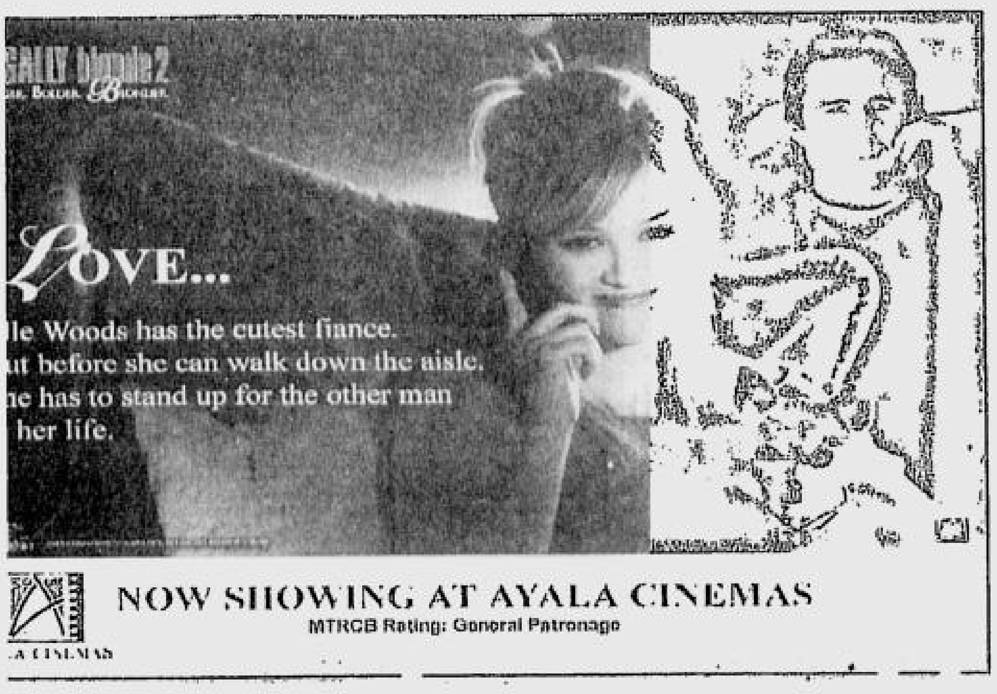
For inquiries & reservations, call 752-7862 or 757-3860 to 63.

GREENBELT
mycinema


AYALA CINEMAS
OPENS SEP. 10 AT ArtFilm
DARING AWARD-WINNING EXTRAORDINARY
Based on the novel "Sacre et Profane" by Marcelle Be
LE PACTE DU SILENCE
(The Pact Of Silence)
What if the truth behind the secret is a lie?
Gérard Depardieu & Élodie Bouchez

Golden Globe winner Gérard Depardieu stars as a Jesuit priest, Dr. Joachim Ferrer. Harboring a secret from his violent past and having found solace in the church, he soon finds himself caught in a web of intrigue when a young Carmelite nun, Sarah, is rushed to his hospital. Suffering from inexplicable pain and delusions, Joachim recognizes in Sarah the familiar symptoms of repression and denial. What no one knows is the terrifying secret she [illegible] inside her

MTRCB Rating: Parental Guidance 13
NOKIA



LEGALLY blonde 2
LOVE...
lle Woods has the cutest fiance.
ut before she can walk down the aisle.
he has to stand up for the other man
her life.
AYALA CINEMAS
NOW SHOWING AT AYALA CINEMAS
MTRCB Rating: General Patronage

Music and Manoling

By Coylee Gamboa
Contributor

MANOLING Francisco seemed destined to be a concert pianist.

The young prodigy was assigned his first piano concerto, Beethoven's Concerto in C, in seventh grade. He would perform it at the Concert in the Park or with the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra, his teacher promised.

YESTERDAY

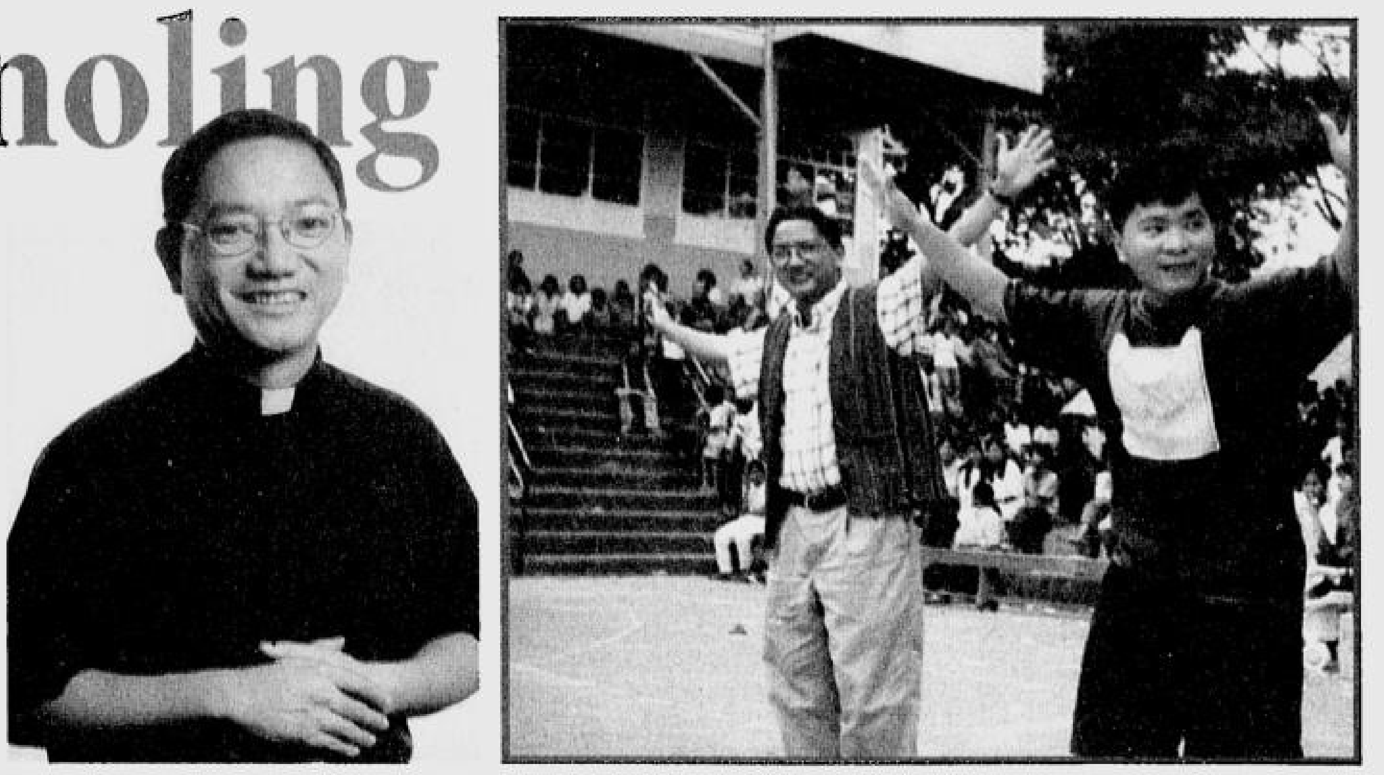
But Manoling never finished practicing or memorizing the piece. One August afternoon, after classes had ended at the Ateneo grade school, the young Manoling was waiting for the family driver, when the call came. He was certain in his heart that God was speaking to him.

"I felt so invaded by a warm and positive presence," Manoling said. "I knew it was God calling me to the priesthood. My immediate response was 'Yes, Lord, I will be a priest for you.'"

Manoling thought, "How can I prepare to be a priest?" He figured that from side altar to main altar would be a natural step, so he applied to be a *sacristan*.

But, he recalled with a shrug, "they discovered I was a pianist. From then on, I became the grade school organist. I was far removed from the altar and they never made me serve as a *sacristan* again."

Manoling was a high school freshman when his songwriting talent became apparent to all. The class moderator, Onofre Pagsanjan, encouraged Manoling's class to join Ateneo's songwriting contest and suggested Isaiah 49:14-16 in English as the inspiration. Pagsi gave the first line, "*Hindi kita malilimutan*" and urged the class of 40-plus students to come up with the rest of the lyrics, metered in nine syllables ending in "*an*."


FR. FRANCISCO today (left) and moving to a different drum in 1999 in Kiangan (in red vest).

Someone raised his hand and said, "*Hindi kita pababayaan*." Another said, "*Nakaukit ang 'yong pangalan*." By the end of the class period, they had completed the entire song.

"Looking back," Manoling said, "it was clearly God's presence. It seems so improbable. Even in my inspired moments, I couldn't write such beautiful lyrics in perfect rhythm in that short time."

Pagsi then asked who played the guitar or the piano. Manoling and three others were given the assignment to put music to the lyrics overnight. The class would decide the following day which version to enter in the contest.

"I wasn't inspired at all," Manoling recalled. "Most people hear God's voice in the tragedies of life or peak moments of joy like the birth of a child, marriage, the first house, the first graduation. My life-changing experiences came in quiet moments."

Scandalized

The next day, the four composers sang their versions. "Tawag ng Tanghalan"-style, the class applauded for their choice, which was Manoling's composition.

He recalled, "We had no way of winning the contest because we were competing against the upper years. The fourth year sang in voices, they had choreography, guitars, piano. *Kami*, I just played the piano and we stood up straight and sang in our croaky transitional voices. When we won the grand prize, we were all scandalized! We did not see any value in our song because it was so simple and it did not move us at all.

"Four weeks later, during PTA, we sang the song for our mothers and they cried. Still we did not believe. But (eventually) St. Scho was singing it, the parochial schools, then it spread to the provinces and the OCWs. With no recording, no notes being written down, the song was spreading on its own. I could not deny anymore that God was moving in my life and through me."

Living dangerously

At that point, Manoling told his piano teacher he had to terminate his training as a classical pianist. This gave him time to teach Cathecism in Balara and Marikina, and Math and English in public schools. He believed that to be a radical disciple of Jesus in the mid-'80s was to somehow contribute to the alleviation of poverty and ignorance of the masses. His radical discipleship, which he imposed upon himself, led him to spend the summers with fishing folks in Laurel, Batangas, and with a poor farmer's family in Hacienda Luisita, Tarlac.

As a college freshman, he attended mock trials of political detainees, joined the parliament of the streets in Mendiola and España, melded with picket lines and beefed up the barricades of squatters. "It was a time of living dangerously," he recalled. "My academics suffered tremendously. It was no longer important to me to attend class. I often feared for my life.

"But, in private prayer, I knew God was calling me to enter the noviate. I was constantly quarelling with God. 'How can you call me to a life of isolation when the need of the people is to be among them in their struggle for political liberation? How can I just pray within the confines of the novitiate when You are the One asking our people to rise up and be free?'"

Liturgical songs

One February evening in 1985, amid the marches, the strikes and the demonstrations, he heard God say, "Manoling, political and economic liberation is important, but more essential is the salvation of souls." Manoling quietly surrended to God and applied for the Jesuit noviate.

The times were chaotic. There was turmoil in the country and turmoil within Manoling. He was praying for peace and the song "One More Gift" emerged as the cry of his heart. Another theme that he prayed over and over again—surrendering to God—he expressed in "Take and Receive," and "Panalangin sa Pagiging Bukas Palad."

Without consciously intending to, Manoling was building a repertoire of liturgical songs that answered the longing of the people for church songs which were not remakes of pop songs. Even as a seminarian, Manoling was already a household name.

After his ordination in 1997, the young priest was sent north to Kiangan, in the vicariate of Bontoc-Lagawe. Manoling's parish covered two municipalities and 25 barrios spread over several mountain ranges.

To visit a barrio, he had to walk from two to 12 hours over mountain ranges, forests, rivers, and hanging bridges. He conquered his fear of heights, his physical limitations and the loneliness of his solitary posting to bring God literally to ends of the earth. But there were times when he quailed and asked the Lord, "Why me? *Hirap na hirap na ako. Bakit ako ipinadala rito*?"

God's love

Always, he said, the Lord's answer came through the people. In barrio after barrio, the villagers affirmed the young priest's presence, thanking him effusively for bringing the Sacraments, explaining Scripture to them and counseling them.

"A priest's presence to them was a very palpable expression of God's love for them, *na hindi sila nalilimutan o napapabayaan*," he said, quoting the lyrics of "Hindi Kita Malilimutan."

Manoling also got together with musicians from Baguio and they produced six ethnic liturgical songs, five of which premiered in his CCP concert, "Tanging Yaman, Himig at Pananalig."

Manoling is now taking up his doctorate in Systematic Theology at the Weston Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge, Massachusetts. In 2000, he finished his licentiate, an ecclesiastical degree that allows him to teach in a Catholic seminary. He hopes to finish his dissertation by 2005.

"For now, composing and arranging are things I do after my first priorities—studying, teaching, administering the sacraments, counseling, giving retreats—all my priestly ministries," said Manoling, who is in the country on vacation. "If I have time, then I write music."

Thanksgiving

At the behest of some close friends who belong to Our Lady of Pentecost Parish in Loyola Heights, Quezon City, Manoling has composed a song for the parish and is directing its thanksgiving concert of contemporary Pilipino liturgical music, most of which he composed.

The concert, dubbed "Pista ng Ating Pasasalamat," will feature Nolyn Cabahug, Jet Pangan and May Bayot, as well as a 16-piece chamber group, and a 100-member choir from Ateneo and Marikina. It will be held tomorrow, Saturday, at the Irwin Theatre of Ateneo in Loyola—in a matinee show at 3 p.m. and in an evening show at 7 p.m.

"We started in May 1999 with no lot, no church, no office, no convent," said Father Steven Zabala, parish priest of Our Lady of Pentecost parish. "We held our daily Masses in the garage of a borrowed house and our Sunday Masses in a basketball court."

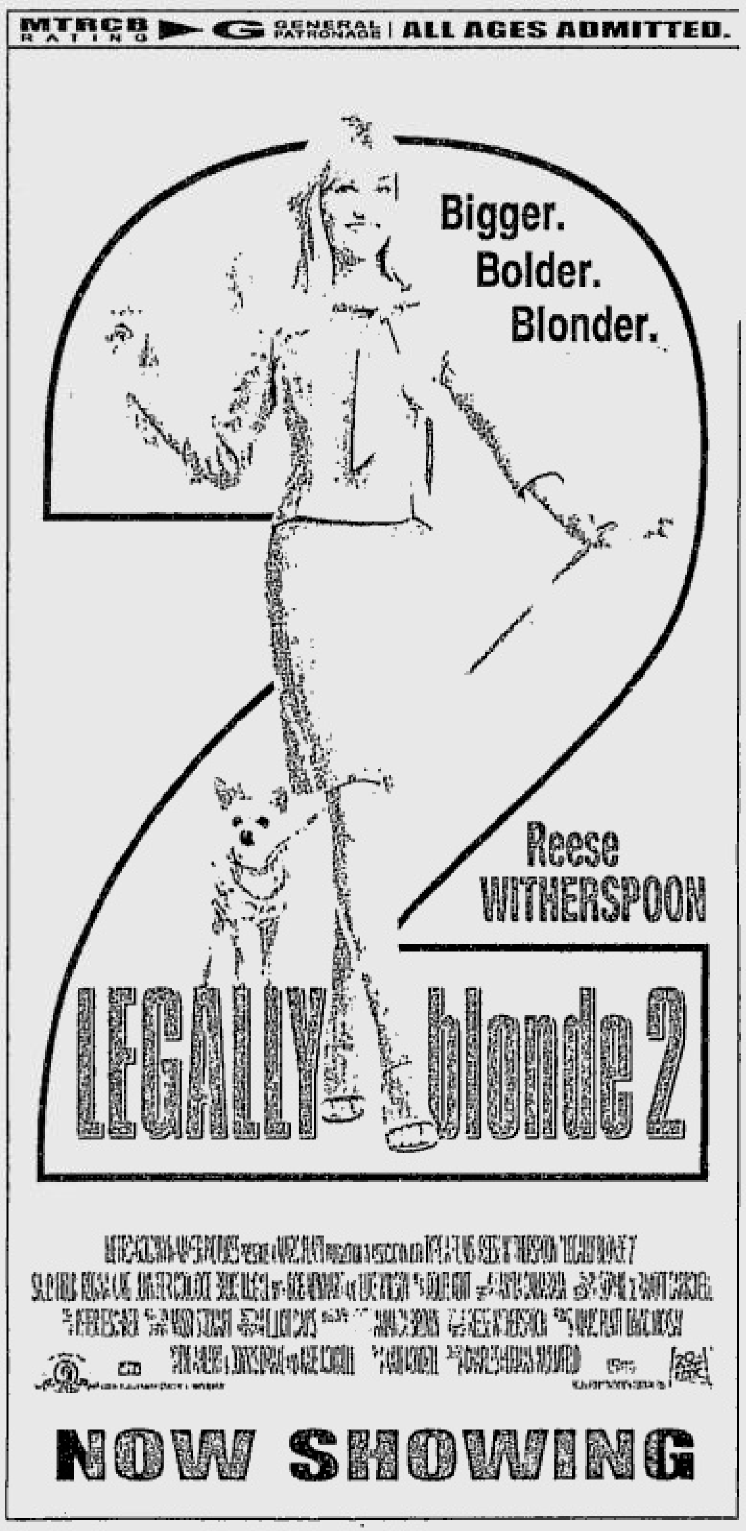
The borrowed house was the temporary chapel, office and convent in the first three years of the parish's existence. Last year, the parish moved to a modest house at 12 Dela Rosa corner C. Salvador. The *sala* became the chapel, the dining room became the parish office, the master's bedroom the conference room and the rest of the convent.

This year, the parish acquired a 981-square-meter lot across its present chapel on which it plans to build the parish church.

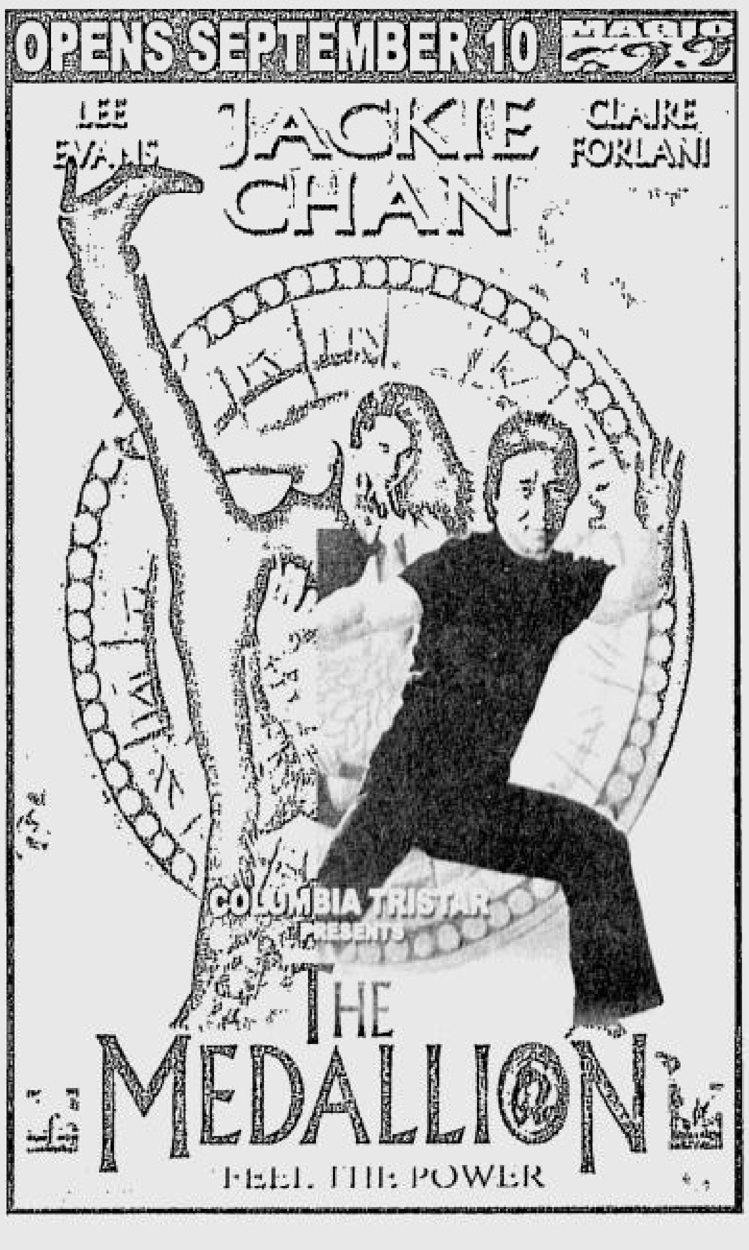
For tickets to "Pista ng Ating Pasasalamat," please call 434-2397, 4261023, 929-0665).

VIVA CONCERTS presents
Rico J. Puno • Hajji Alejandro • Rey Valera • Nonoy Zuñiga • Marco Sison
GREATEST HITS
Just Once More!
September 26, 2003
8:00 PM
Araneta Coliseum
September 12, 2003
8:00 PM
Waterfront.Lahug Cebu City
TICKET PRICES: Patron A-P1,200 / Patron B-P1,200 / Lower Box-P850
Upper Box A-P500 / Upper Box B-P250 / General Admission-P100

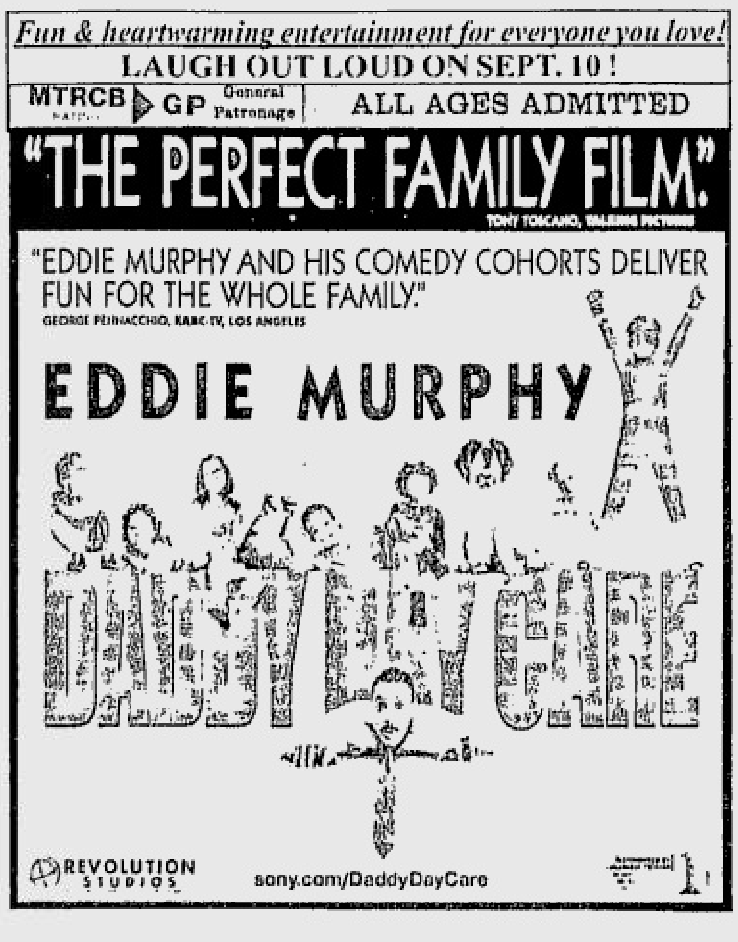
NOW SHOWING!
MTRCB RATING R RESTRICTED
Strictly for ADULTS
No one below 18 yrs may be admitted
Breaking All Box-Office Record in Asia
More shocking than the "The Ring"
More Horrifying than the "The Eye"
Watch if you dare!
New Blood
EMPEROR MULTIMEDIA GROUP present NEW BLOOD
MAGGIE WU • ANDREA YEH • ANDERSON CHENG • DONNIE WONG • EKIN CHAN • JOSIE LAM
www.newblood.com
Directed by JOHN HARK
2003 EMG Films Ltd All Rights Reserved



MTRCB RATING G GENERAL PATRONAGE | ALL AGES ADMITTED.
Bigger.
Bolder.
Blonder.
Reese WITHERSPOON
LEGALLY blonde 2
NOW SHOWING



OPENS SEPTEMBER 10
LEE EVANS
JACKIE CHAN
CLAIRE FORLANI
COLUMBIA TRISTAR PRESENTS
THE MEDALLION
FEEL THE POWER



Fun & heartwarming entertainment for everyone you love!
LAUGH OUT LOUD ON SEPT. 10!
MTRCB RATING GP General Patronage
ALL AGES ADMITTED
"THE PERFECT FAMILY FILM."
TONY TOSCANO, TALKING PICTURES
"EDDIE MURPHY AND HIS COMEDY COHORTS DELIVER FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY."
GEORGE PENNACCHIO, KABC-TV, LOS ANGELES
EDDIE MURPHY
DADDY DAY CARE
REVOLUTION STUDIOS
sony.com/DaddyDayCare

SMART

Game Station

WWE
Mobile Madness
CAGE
THQ
START
SELECT

Available Games
Ground Pounder
Tank Terror
Sheod
Moto GP

Your favourite console games are now available on your SMART cellphone.

And get a load of these and more JAVA games that you can download and play anytime, anywhere.

Compatible Nokia Models: N7650, N3650, N7250, N7210, N6800, N6610, N6100, N3300

To download a Java game,
visit the SMART WAP site at http://wap.smart.com.ph
and click on the 'Game Station' link.

₱30.00 per download.

Available to SMART Gold, SMART Buddy, Talk N' Text and Addict Mobile subscribers.

SMART
Simply Amazing!

Game Station

AMERICAN
EYE CENTER
www.eyecenter.com.ph
PhilHealth accredited

FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 5, 2003

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BUSINESS

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inq7money.net

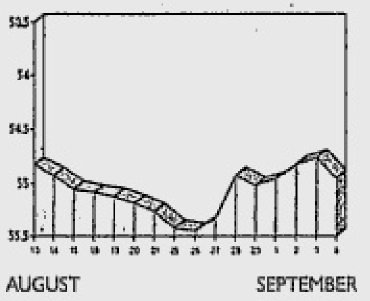
Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

STOP
HAIR
LOSS
at
SVENSON
Call us now! 842-1389

Exports slumped 7.9% in July to $2.97B

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

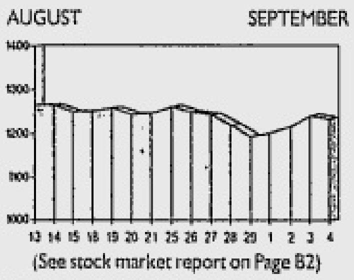
P 54.95= $1
As of 5 p.m., Sept. 4, 2003

¥ 116.86= $1
As of 5 p.m., Sept. 4, 2003

GOLD: $ 372.80-373.30
per ounce Hong Kong, Sept. 4, 2003

STOCK MARKET

Stocks end lower



(See stock market report on Page B2)

STOCKS pulled back slightly yesterday as players took a breather after three straight days of gains.

PLDT, the country's largest telecommunications company, and Meralco, the biggest power distributor, led the losses.

The main index closed 7.61 points or 0.61 percent lower at 1,233.87 but it is still up 21.16 percent this year. Turnover rose to P402.2 million from Wednesday's P393.1 million. Losers beat gainers 32 to 23 and there were 43 stocks unchanged.

"Investors took the opportunity to take profits given the gains in the last three days," said BPI Securities technical analyst Roberto Cano, adding resistance stood at 1,255 points.

"We still see the market consolidating at the 1,230 level."

Analysts said investors likely took their cue from the drop in PLDT's American Depositary Receipts (ADRs) traded in New York to sell the company's shares.

PLDT, the session's most active stock, closed P5 lower at P585 after its ADRs fell $0.18 to $10.48 on Wednesday.

Despite the market's decline, analysts said its near-term outlook remained positive as the index had not dropped below the psychological support mark of 1,230 points.

Meralco's shares suffered on news the utility needed to borrow $200 million from capital markets before October to avoid defaulting on debt as it pays court-ordered refunds to customers for years of overbilling.

Its A-shares, restricted to Filipinos, fell 1.92 percent or 25 centavos to P12.75 and its B-shares, which are open to foreigners, lost 2.44 percent or 50 centavos to P20.

Ayala Land Inc., the biggest property firm in the Philippines, fell 10 centavos to P6.20.

Reuters

By Doris C. Dumlao

A SLUMP in the sales of electronic products following a more cautious inventory build-up by manufacturers pulled down Philippine export earnings by 7.9 percent in July to $2.97 billion from a year ago, negating the recovery seen in June.

But given the improving outlook in the United States, the country's biggest market, economists said the local export sector may yet pick up at a stronger pace in the months ahead.

The country's export revenues had rebounded by 4.2 percent year-on-year in June to $3.06 billion after declining by 4 percent in May and 1.8 percent in April.

The drop in July exports followed the 3.3-percent contraction in imports in June, as manufacturers eased their production due to rising costs triggered by the depreciation of the peso against the US dollar. As the country's exports are heavily dependent on foreign inputs, the import bill is a key indicator of subsequent export performance.

The National Statistics Office yesterday reported that for the seven-month period, the country's export receipts inched up by only 0.5 percent to $20.04 billion from a year ago.

Asked whether the decline in exports in July could threaten the country's economic prospects for the rest of the year, Economic Planning Secretary Romulo Neri said: "It's hard to say at this point. I'm getting mixed signals here."

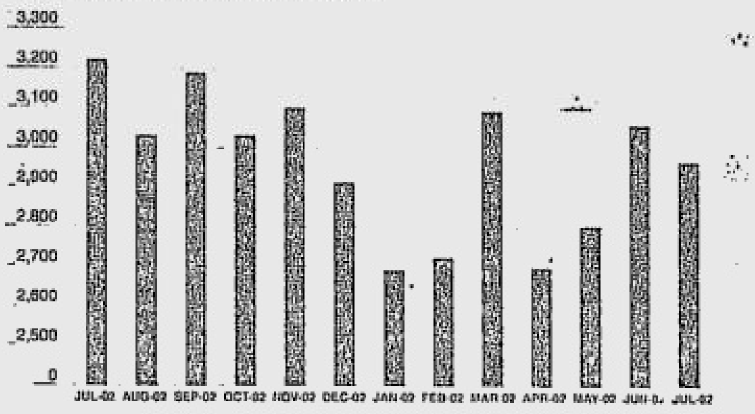
Neri said that a check with the Philippine Exporters Confederation yesterday indicated that the sector was still confident of meeting the 5-percent growth target for the full year. He said there was an increase in orders starting last May but given the usual three-month lag, higher sales might not be reflected until August.

He noted that the slowdown in July was partially due to the "base effect" compared with the extraordinarily high receipts recorded in the same period last year.

Earnings from electronic products, which accounted for 65.6 per-

EXPORTS/ B2

TOTAL EXPORTS
July 2002 to July 2003, in million US dollars



3 groups eye Nat'l Steel plant

By Elena R. Torrijos

TWO of the biggest steel trading giants are among those that have registered interest in bidding for the Iligan plant of cash-strapped National Steel Corp.

Brazilian steel trader Duferco and Global Infrastructure Holdings Ltd., the parent of the Ispat group's Indian steel operations, indicated their interest to submit proposals for the lease of the Iligan plant.

An official of one of NSC's creditor-banks said there were three parties that registered their interest.

The third group was not identified and was represented by a law firm.

Two weeks ago, the management committee of NSC composed mainly of the steel firm's creditor-banks invited the public to submit proposals for lease with option to purchase the Iligan steel plant.

Under the guidelines set by the management committee, applicants must put up a cash deposit of at least P500 million in escrow with a reputable bank or financing institution or a committed credit facility to finance the rehabilitation, start-up costs and initial working capital for the plant.

The applying company or consortium should also have a net worth proportionate to the magnitude of the financial requirements of leasing and operating the NSC facilities.

The winning proponent, to guarantee faithful performance of its obligations, should also post a rehabilitation and operating performance security equivalent to P500 million or a year's lease payments plus six months payments for plant utilities, whichever is higher.

"The proponent must have adequate financial capability to sustain the financial requirements of the rehabilitation, upgrade, operation and maintenance of the plant facilities," the management committee said in the guideline documents.

The committee also required investors to prove they have the experience and technical capability to undertake the operation of flat steel rolling mills or billet making.

RP seen as aircraft maintenance hub

By Clarissa S. Batino

LUFTHANSA Technik Philippines Inc., a joint venture between Macro Asia Corp. of taipan Lucio Tan and the German flag carrier, is expanding its local operations to eventually make the Philippines a maintenance hub for Airbus aircraft in the region, company chair Washington Sycip said.

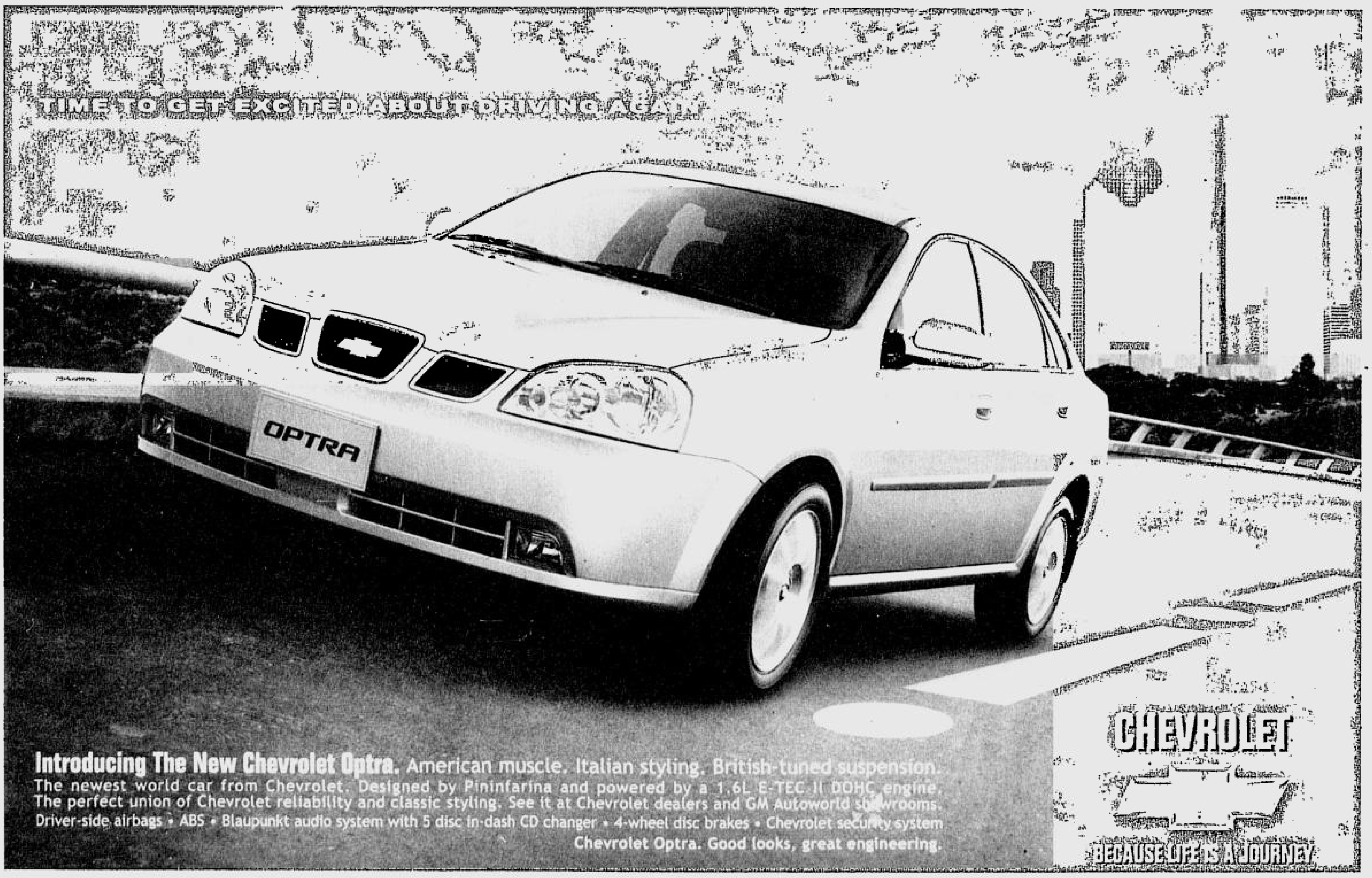
In an interview with reporters, Sycip said there were so many problems in the Philippines mostly caused by political controversies and faulty government policies.

"But if you pick out areas, there are bright spots where the Philippines could make a difference," he noted.

One is the airline maintenance service, which had recently been getting the attention of foreign investors like German firm Lufthansa.

He said an increasing number of Airbus aircraft were being serviced locally, adding that Lufthansa had been training Filipino aircraft

RP/ B3



TIME TO GET EXCITED ABOUT DRIVING AGAIN
OPTRA
CHEVROLET
BECAUSE LIFE IS A JOURNEY
Introducing The New Chevrolet Optra. American muscle. Italian styling. British-tuned suspension.
The newest world car from Chevrolet. Designed by Pininfarina and powered by a 1.6L E-TEC II DOHC engine.
The perfect union of Chevrolet reliability and classic styling. See it at Chevrolet dealers and GM Autoworld showrooms.
Driver-side airbags • ABS • Blaupunkt audio system with 5 disc in-dash CD changer • 4-wheel disc brakes • Chevrolet security system
Chevrolet Optra. Good looks, great engineering.

Chevrolet dealers and GM AutoWorld showrooms are open 7 days a week.

3 YEAR WARRANTY
PMS PERIODIC MAINTENANCE SERVICE
CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE CENTER 1800-1800-4040

GM AutoWorld MAKATI
2296 Don Chino Roces Ave., (formerly Pasong Tamo) Makati City
Tel Nos 887-8183 to 87 / 894-1970
Fax No. 894-5495

GM AutoWorld QUEZON AVENUE
1231 Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tel Nos. 374-1250 to 59 / 413-8133
372-8001 to 02 / 415-8879
Fax No.: 372-8008

GM AutoWorld SHAW
500 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Tel Nos. 535-4944 / 535-4938
533-1263
Tel./Fax No. 535-4937 / 535-4935

Chevrolet Pasig
92-102 E. Rodriguez Jr., Avenue
C5 Bo. Ugong, Pasig City
Tel. No. 672-1484 to 86

Chevrolet Pampanga
San Fernando - Olongapo Highway
City of San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel No. (045) 963-3333

GM AutoWorld CEBU
Gov. Cuenco Ave., Cebu City
Tel No.: (32) 234-0426
Fax No. (32) 231-7760

See the Chevrolet Optra at
www.generalmotors.com.ph

Traffic, traffic, everywhere.
DON'T WORRY,
DRIVE HAPPY.
PETRON
Ultron
with TS³
The Ultimate Release
from Engine Stress.
From Petron.
AVAILABLE IN TOURING, EXTRA, RALLYE, RACE.

P15-M principles

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

A COURT-APPOINTED receiver is supposed to revive a moribund company, but at the rate things are going over at the cash-strapped ASB Group, the receiver is being rehabilitated much faster than the realty company.

The Securities and Exchange Commission is trying to yank out accountant Fortunato Cruz after SEC Chair Lilia Bautista found out that Cruz's company, Fortune Managers, is seeking more than P15 million in extra compensation, in addition to the P375,000 monthly salary Cruz has already been drawing from the debt-laden condominium builder since April 2001.

Saying he was fighting for "principles" and his reputation, Cruz claimed the P15-million charge represented the "facilitation work" he and his firm had done to secure the release of some P150 million worth of tax credit certificates for the ASB Group.

The P15 million, which apparently represents the 10-percent fee, is supposed to be shared by Cruz with the Joaquin Cunanan/Pricewaterhouse Coopers accounting firm.

Cruz's claim, however, was shot down by the SEC en banc, which, after a series of hearings, ruled that such facilitation work was part of a receiver's duties.

A recalcitrant Cruz subsequently sued the SEC and ASB, and filed another case with the Court of Appeals questioning the SEC for having replaced him with lawyer-accountant Rosario Bernaldo.

A former Finex president, Bernaldo is willing to work as ASB receiver under the new SEC-prescribed fee of P50,000/month.

French fried

THREE visiting auditors sent by the Paris headquarters of Publicis were picked up Tuesday and briefly detained by immigration agents who were tipped off of the presence of the French paratroopers conducting management audit at the Publicis AMA advertising agency offices in Eastwood, Libis.

According to the grapevine, the Frenchmen are in town to get to the bottom of the management issues that are threatening to break up the 1999 joint venture between Publicis and the local AMA (the previous Advertising and Marketing Associates).

The Publicis-AMA row had already caused the departure of the agency's executive vice president, Gil Chua. Chua remains president of DDB Philippines, a sister agency of AMA.

Instead of paying Chua's claim of separation benefits, the Singapore regional office of Publicis denied the claim, took a hardline stance, and hired lawyers (Hong Kong-based Antonio Amador, Rosario Bernaldo and associates, and Sycip Salazar law firm) for what looks like a long drawn out court battle.

'Cheap' foreign escapes

TIRED of boorish politics and feckless politicians? Had enough of the shoot-first, ask-questions-later mentality of the media, the military mutineers, the bizarre left-Erap-Copa alliance, and the clowns in Congress?

A quick escape to a First World destination just might help you maintain sanity in these toxic times.

Cebu Pacific and Philippine Airlines are still trying to outdo each other in offering bargain-basement tours to Hong Kong. The packages, which go as low as $85 (airfare, two nights hotel accommodation included), may still be availed of until the middle of this month.

And despite the abatement of the SARS scare, the trans-Pacific airlines are still trying to lure travelers to pack their bags and loosen their grip on their wallets with historically low fares.

Continental Airlines, for instance, is offering as low as $555-economy, round-trip ticket to Los Angeles out of Manila until December. The downside is the flight is a milk run, stopping by Guam and Honolulu; in addition, the promo ticket is valid for one month, which means the traveler has to return to Manila via the same route within a month.

The upside is that Continental is an affiliate of Northwest, and the mileage gained in that flight could be banked and added to the Northwest mileage.

Korean Air, on the other hand, offers a more relaxed, six-month valid economy fare to the City of Angels for $655. The small print is that the ticket must be purchased by Sept. 15, and that travel out of Manila be made not later than Oct. 31.

Northwest Airlines, which has more seats as it has two daily flights out of Manila as against one of Korean Air, has extended the availability of its $731-fare to the West Coast also up to Oct. 31.

Like Korean Air, the Northwest passage must be booked and paid by Sept. 15. Unlike Korean Air, the Northwest promo fare is valid for only three months, still good enough for those wishing to spend the Yuletide holidays with States-based relatives, as the return leg to Manila may be taken as late as Jan. 31, 2004.

Heard through the grapevine

IN case you failed to catch his interview with the ANC Channel 21, San Miguel chair Eduardo Cojuangco Jr. said he would shrink the government and lay off personnel, a strategy he had done to nurse the food and beverage giant to competitive strength, if ever he becomes the president of the Philippines.

That could only mean that Cojuangco favors the privatization of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, where the protest actions are being waged by, ironically, pro-Erap protégés.

(Cocktales may be reached by e-mail at cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or at cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com.)

PSE sets new rules on corporate disclosures

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Commission has approved the proposed disclosure rules of the Philippine Stock Exchange.

In a letter to PSE president Ernest Leung on Wednesday, SEC brokers and exchange department director Jose Aquino said the Commission determined that the third draft of the PSE's disclosure rules was consistent with that of the SEC, which thus approved the rules.

The PSE last year drafted a new set of disclosure guidelines to ensure timely and accurate release of material information on listed companies to the investing public.

The proposed guidelines included a "blackout rule" recommended as a deterrent to insider trading by individuals privy to material information not available to the investing public.

Listed companies would also be required to disclose to the exchange the direct and indirect shareholdings of their directors and principal officers within certain periods.

The guidelines also provide that listed companies must, upon the request of the PSE, confirm or deny the veracity of material information such as news reports pertaining to them or any of their subsidiaries.

The guidelines also require prompt disclosure on the following:

- amendments to articles of incorporation and by-laws;
- acquisitions by a listed company's subsidiaries and affiliates;
- release of shares from escrow or lock-up period within 10 days before the end of the voluntary lock-up period, and
- termination of services of a stock transfer agent and the reason for termination. *Elena R. Torrijos*

FINANCE MINISTERS MEET

Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho (third from left) joins other finance ministers and delegates at the opening ceremony of the two-day Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) finance ministers meeting in Phuket, Thailand, starting Thursday. Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra told Pacific rim finance ministers that their economies needed to create "close regional synergy" to fight global threats like terrorism.

AFP

SEC approves satellite operator's IPO plan

By Elena R. Torrijos

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Commission has approved the registration of satellite operator Transpacific Broadcast Group International Inc.'s proposed initial public offering designed to raise funds for the company's expansion.

TBGI, majority owned by businessman Arsenio Ng, aims to raise net proceeds of P77.2 million by offering 76.64 million new common shares to the public at a price anywhere from P1.18 to P1.48 each.

The company estimated that it would be able to raise at least P77.25 million to as much as P99.32 million from the IPO, which is scheduled to be completed before the end of this year.

The total common shares to be offered would be equivalent to a 35-percent stake in the company. The shares would be listed on the second board of the Philippine Stock Exchange.

TBGI has a 25-year legislative franchise and authority to operate a satellite earth station for use in commercial telecommunications and television broadcast operations.

"The net proceeds from the offer will be used for VSAT equipment acquisition, marketing promotions, and working capital requirements," the company said.

TBGI started commercial operations of its satellite broadcast in 1996. It has provisional authority to procure, install operate and maintain international exchange service nodes in Metro Manila and other areas and to offer value-added services.

TBGI also has authority to offer services for Web page hosting, electronic mail, file protocol, remote log-in, Internet fax and electronic commerce.

Earlier, TBGI chair Arsenio Ng said the company planned to establish connectivity of 1,500 schools and 500 hospitals over the next five years.

"Our corporate mission is to provide Internet connectivity of rural communities throughout the country to enhance delivery of education, health care and livelihood programs whether of government or concerned institutions," Ng said.

Aboitiz wants direct stake in Visayas utility company

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE ABOITIZ family will stop at nothing short of getting its direct shares in power distributor Visayan Electric Co. (Veco), but says it has launched a court battle against fellow Cebu-based Garcia family "with regrets."

In an interview with the INQUIRER Wednesday night, Aboitiz Equity Ventures Inc. executive vice president Erramon Aboitiz said: "We really didn't want to file but it was our last resort. We couldn't reach an agreement and we have our fiduciary responsibility to shareholders of Hijos de Escaño Inc. and AEV."

Hijos de F. Escaño Inc. is a privately held company whose principal asset is its controlling stake in Veco.

AEV owns about 46 percent of Hijos (equivalent to a 24.5-percent indirect stake in Veco) and another 30-percent direct stake in Veco, giving it beneficial ownership of 54.5 percent of the utility firm.

"This is against the interest of minority shareholders (of Hijos). Moving forward, we want the court to distribute the shares so that each of us will directly own the shares without having a holding company in between," Aboitiz said.

For its part, he said AEV was committed to improving the service and profitability of Veco.

"All we want to do is to build Veco into a world-class electric utility for the benefit of its shareholders. They (Garcias) can still be our partners but we don't want to be in a position that they are in control of our shares," he said.

The Garcias have a beneficial ownership of about 36 percent of Veco.

Earlier this week, AEV filed with the Regional Trial Court of Cebu a lawsuit seeking P613 million in damages, a reversal of the share-swap transaction between Hijos and Vivant Corp. and the dissolution of Hijos.

INTEREST RATES

Sept. 4, 2003-MART1 Rates

Benchmark Interest Rates	MART1 4-Sep-03	MART1 3-Sep-03
1 Month	6.3161	6.225
3 Months	6.3696	6.3442
6 Months	6.8073	6.7223
1 Year	8.3733	8.385
2 Years	9.7867	9.8268
3 Years	10.3961	10.3886
4 Years	10.7483	10.7783
5 Years	11.1267	11.1589
7 Years	11.5288	11.6054
10 Years	11.8983	11.91
20 Years	12.3083	12.325
25 Years	12.4981	12.5617

SOURCE: MART/BLOOMBERG

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of Sept. 4, 2003)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	31,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	42.5	42.5	42	42.5	1,176,900
China Banking Corp.	660	665	660	665	180
Equitable PCI Bank Inc	33	33	33	33	500
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	28.5	28.5	27.5	28	184,900
Philippine National Bank	24.5	24.5	23.75	24	97,200
Phil Savings Bank	27.5	27.5	27.5	27.5	10,000
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	13	13	13	13	5,000
Security Bank Corp.	19	19	19	19	144,100
Union Bank of the Phil.	26.5	26.5	26.5	26.5	36,200
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
Manulife Financial Corp.	1665	1700	1665	1700	1,850
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc	1.32	1.34	1.3	1.32	16,150,000
Sun Life Financial Inc	1190	1205	1190	1200	6,730
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp	23.5	24.5	23.5	24.5	8,300
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.59	1,050,000
Easycall Phils. Inc -Com	0.58	0.58	0.58	0.58	10,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	650	655	640	655	15,500
Island Info And Tech Inc	0.049	0.049	0.049	0.049	3,300,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.048	0.048	0.047	0.047	1,900,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	9,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	0.59	0.59	0.58	0.58	1,270,000
Phil. Telegraph & Tel. C	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	10,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co	575	590	570	585	166,920
Ivantage Corp.	0.4	0.4	0.39	0.39	200,000
Philweb Corp.	0.013	0.013	0.012	0.013	6,100,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	12.5	12.75	12.5	12.75	43,300
Manila Electric Co. B	20.5	20.5	19.75	20	1,866,300
Petron Corp.	1.92	1.94	1.92	1.94	1,364,000
Salcon Power Co	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	8,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	110,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	150,000
Lorenzo Shipping Corp	0.25	0.25	0.24	0.24	60,000
William,Gothong & Aboitiz	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	1,886,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp	1.64	1.64	1.64	1.64	22,000
Sanitary Wares Mfg. Corp	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	40,000
Union Cement Corp	0.7	0.7	0.68	0.7	410,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	174,000
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	4	4	4	4	4,000
Ginebra San Miguel Inc	30	30	30	30	114,200
Jollibee Foods Corp	7.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	300,000
San Miguel Corp. A	54	54.5	53.5	54	146,700
San Miguel Corp. B	62.5	62.5	61.5	62	151,600
Vitarich Corp.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	100,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con R	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	200,000
Ayala Corp.	4.35	4.4	4.35	4.35	6,461,000
Alsons Cons. I	[illegible]	0.16	0.16	0.16	200,000
Aboitiz Equity	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.7	1,059,000
Ajo.Net Holdings	0.034	0.034	0.034	0.034	500,000
A. Soriano Corp.	0.79	0.79	0.79	0.79	10,000
Atn Holdings Inc	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	10,000
Benpres Holdings Corp	0.55	0.57	0.55	0.56	7,660,000
Basic Consolidated Inc	0.14	0.15	0.14	0.145	2,910,000
Southeast Asian Cem	0925	0925	0.0925	0.0925	500,000
DMCI Holdings Inc	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	1,190,000
Filinvest Dev.	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04	11,000
First Phil Hldg	17	17.5	17	17.25	129,800
Global Equities	0.115	0.12	0.115	0.115	860,000
Ionics Inc.	1.36	1.36	1.34	1.36	311,000
Megaworld Co	0.91	0.91	0.9	0.91	2,410,000
Metro Paci	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	140,000
Music Co	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	150,000
Prime O	[illegible]	0.27	0.25	0.26	1,530,000
East Asia P		0.155	0.13	0.135	740,000
Roxas Holding		1.02	1.02	1.02	650,000
ide Holdi	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	100,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1.46	1.46	50,000
[illegible]		[illegible]	1.08	1.1	60,000
[illegible]		[illegible]	0.08	0.09	3,900,000
[illegible]	[illegible]	0.16	0.16	0.16	1,100,000
[illegible]	12.75	13.5	12.75	13.5	16,900
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Fairmont Holdings I	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	140,000
Leisure & Resorts C	0.54	0.56	0.54	0.56	70,000
Manila Jockey Club	8	8	8	8	8,000
Mondragon Intl Phils	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	250,000
Philippine Racing Club	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	10,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr	24.25	24.5	24.25	24.5	109,400
DMCI Holdings Inc - Pref	775	775	775	775	19,200
PLDT (10% Pref) Series		10	10	10	1,000
PLDT (1 Pref) Series		10	10	10	2,000
OTHERS					
[illegible]		5		[illegible]	230,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	4,551,000
C & P Homes Inc	0.21	0.21	0.2	0.2	270,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.19	0.195	0.19	0.195	1,500,000
Empire East Land Inc	0.225	0.225	0.225	0.225	20,000
Edsa Prop. Holdings	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	20,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02	4,167,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.2	0.21	0.2	0.2	490,000
City & Land Developer	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	15,000
SM Development Corp	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	26,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc		5.6	5.5	5.6	5,529,000
MINING					
Abra Mining & Industrial	0038	0.0038	0.0038	0.0038	2,000,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	[illegible]	0.2	0.2	0.2	350,000
OIL					
Interport Res. B	0.0034	0.0034	0.0034	0.0034	10,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	1,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	2,000,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	10,000
Pacifica	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	5,000,000
South China Resources Inc	[illegible]	0.3	0.3	0.3	20,000

Exports slumped . . .

From page B1

cent of the total export revenue for the month, shrank by 11.1 percent to $1.95 billion, weighed down by the 8.8-percent drop in the sale of semiconductors.

Exports to the United States fell by 23.1 percent to $656.19 million but still accounted for 22.2 percent of total receipts in July.

Sales to Japan, the second biggest market, was nearly flat at $464 million or 15.6 percent of total earnings.

Shipment of manufactured goods, which accounted for 88.1 percent of total export receipts, slowed down by 9.7 percent in July. Manufacturing accounts for about 70 percent of the country's industrial output and a quarter of the domestic economy.

DISCLOSURES

MAKATI Finance Corp. moved its regular board meeting from Sept. 11 to Oct. 16.

PCI Leasing and Finance Inc. bought 246,000 of its own shares at P1.30 per share.

SOLID Group Inc. denied having any information that could explain the 50-percent increase in its share price that rose from P0.32 to P0.48 per share.

SALCON Power Corp. disclosed the resignation of Lim Chan Lok as chair and chief operating officer of the company effective Nov. 30, 2003. He shall continue to be a member of the company's board.

MANILA Electric Co. clarified that it is still considering various financing options under its comprehensive liability management program. ***Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research***

CURRENCIES

September 4, 2003 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.921914	1.000000	54.785000
Japan	Yen	0.007954	0.008628	0.472700
United Kingdo	Pound	1.448788	1.571500	86.094600
Hongkong	Dollar	0.118210	0.128222	7.024600
Switzerland	Franc	0.651437	0.706614	38.711800
Canada	Dollar	0.668587	0.725216	39.731000
Singapore	Dollar	0.525457	0.569963	31.225400
Australia	Dollar	0.590100	0.640082	35.066900
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.445460	2.652590	145.322100
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.245844	0.266667	14.609400
Brunei	Dollar	0.523963	0.568343	31.136700
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000109	0.000118	0.006500
Thailand	Baht	0.022596	0.024510	1.342800
UAE	Dirham	0.251018	0.272279	14.916800
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.084700	59.425300
Argentina	Peso	0.309887	0.336134	18.415100
Brazil	Real	0.311984	0.338409	18.539700
Denmark	Kroner	0.134672	0.146079	8.002900
India	Rupee	0.020124	0.021829	1.195900
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.242641	0.263193	14.419000
Mexico	New Peso	0.084486	0.091642	5.020600
New Zealand	Dollar	0.524470	0.568893	31.166800
Norway	Kroner	0.121472	0.131761	7.218500
Pakistan	Rupee	0.016005	0.017361	0.951100
South Africa	Rand	0.126968	0.137722	7.545100
Korea	Won	0.000785	0.000852	0.046700
Sweden	Kroner	0.109621	0.118906	6.514300
Syria	Pound	0.021951	0.023810	1.304400
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.027107	0.029403	1.610800
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000578	0.000627	0.034400

RP seen as aircraft maintenance hub

From page B1

engineers on stripping an airplane.

"It could not be done as efficiently as in other countries because the brochures are in English. Aside from English proficiency, Filipino workers are also more skilled," Sycip said.

PRULINK	PRU LIFE U.K.	
Investments of Variable Life Insurance Contracts	Current Week September 02, 2003	Last Week August 26, 2003
Bond Fund - Peso	1.08681	1.09307
Managed Fund - Peso	1.09418	1.10543
Bond Fund - US Dollar	0.98510	0.98100

* Note: These investments of variable life insurance contracts are not mutual funds. Life insurance products are regulated by the Insurance Commission

---

eitsc
European IT Service Center

eccp
EUROPEAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE PHILIPPINES

Information Technology Project Management
23-25 September 2003, 9 AM – 5 PM, Makati Shangri-la

Master all the elements and challenges that go into being a top-notch project manager!

As an information systems project manager, your job has evolved from applications development to business systems integration.

You're now responsible for planning, scheduling and controlling a variety of IT projects...managing critical interfaces between your organization, third-party vendors and the user community...and balancing the competing needs of development with maintaining and supporting installed systems.

At this introductory seminar, you'll discover the tools and techniques that will help you optimize the Systems Development Life-Cycle processes so that you can bring your projects online more effectively, more quickly and on budget. You'll examine the processes meant to accelerate development and compress design time. And find out how to use capability and maturity models so that you can assess where your IT processes currently are.

How You Will Benefit

- Maintain control of your projects with proven-in-action scheduling techniques
- Deliver quality systems on time
- Achieve leadership skills that really work
- Successfully plan for the unexpected
- Budget more effectively
- Stay on top of schedules and workloads
- Get organizational support
- Keep conflict at a minimum
- Master the do's and don'ts practiced by successful managers
- Identify the capabilities and limitations of a variety of project management software tools

Register Now!

Limited seats available! To sign up, contact:
EITSC – Tel: 759-6680 or 845-1324
Fax: 759-6690 or 845-1395
Email: sabado@eitsc.com

INFRARED THERMOMETER

- Safe
- Fast
- Accurate
- Very Handy

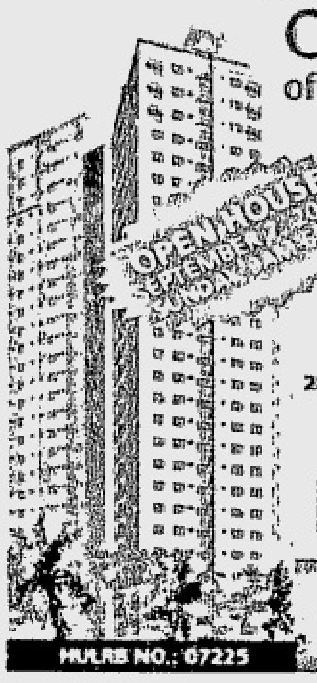
TEMPTELLER
Ear Thermometer

STAR MILLS PAMPANGA
2nd Flr. (45) 636-3513

SM MANILA
5TH FLR. 484-1471

FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr. Bldg. A 635 04-36	**SM FAIRVIEW** Basement [illegible] 75 40	**SM NORTH EDSA** Car Park Plaza 453 3326
CEBU 262-32-39	**SM SOUTHMALL** Basement [illegible] 15-65	**ROBINSONS GALLERIA** Basement 635-5061



Enjoy the CONVENIENCE of Living Beside the MALL

One Gateway Place

28-STOREY RESIDENTIAL CONDOMINIUM
EDSA corner Pioneer St., Mandaluyong City
Beside the Soon to Open
Robinsons Metro Gateway Mall

ROBINSONS
PROPERTIES MARKETING AND MANAGEMENT CORPORATION

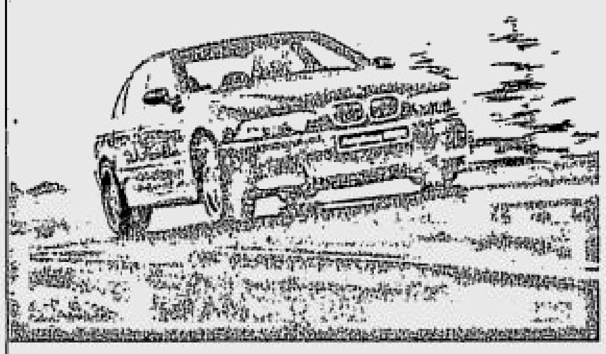
HLURB NO.: 07225

CALL 633-9460
635-4841

Sheer driving pleasure at its best

Only **30% down**

Autohaus BMW
Tel. (02) 638 0734
Sheer Driving Pleasure



BMW Certified Pre-Owned

	Model	Year	Color	Mileage	Price
1	318i Limousine	2002	Titanium Silver	12,000 kms	1,755,000
2	318i Limousine	2002	Orient Blue	12,000 kms	1,755,000
3	318i Limousine	2002	Black Sapphire	6,000 kms	1,795,000
4	318i Limousine	2003	Steel Gray	9,000 kms	1,820,000
5	318i Limousine	2003	Titanium Silver	8,000 kms	1,820,000
6	318i Limousine	2003	Steel Gray	5,000 kms	1,855,000
7	318i Limousine	2003	Titanium Silver	3,000 kms	1,890,000
8	318i Executive	2003	Titanium Silver	11,000 kms	1,950,000
9	325i	2003	Titanium Silver	10,000 kms	2,250,000
10	325i	2003	Titanium Silver	4,000 kms	2,650,000
11	525i	2002	Titanium Silver	17,000 kms	2,750,000
12	525i	2002	Black Sapphire	13,000 kms	2,850,000
13	Z4	2003	Black Sapphire	4,000 kms	3,150,000

Other BMW Pre-Owned Cars

	Model	Year	Color	Mileage	Price
1	316i	1997	Boston Green	60,000 kms	685,000
2	316i	1999	Calypso Red	24,000 kms	790,000
3	320i	1997	Alpine White	34,000 kms	835,000
4	318tds	1996	Titanium Silver	52,000 kms	875,000
5	523i	1996	Dunkel Blue	52,000 kms	1,425,000
6	318i Executive	2001	Black Sapphire	20,000 kms	1,785,000

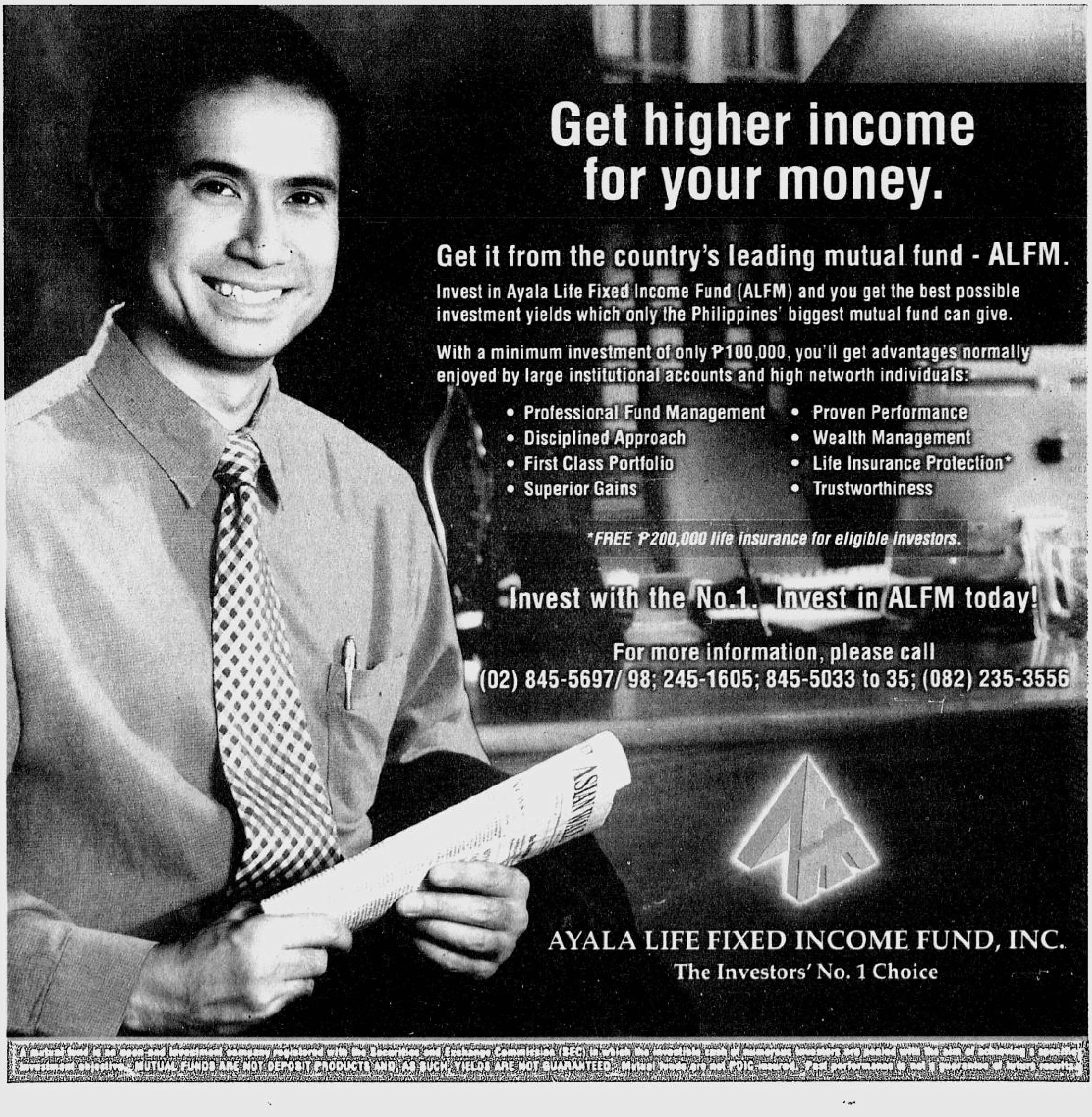
► At **Autohaus BMW**, enjoy huge savings on our BMW Certified Pre-Owned vehicles with a **full 12-month or 20,000 kilometer warranty.** You can take advantage of our preferential financing package **for as low as 30% downpayment.***
A special gift awaits those who make a purchase!

BMW CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED.
Sometimes brand is more important than new.

*On selected cars.
**90 days or 5,000 kilometer (whichever comes first) limited warranty on BMW Pre-Owned Car.

Autohaus BMW.
The BMW Experience.

Visit us at:
Autohaus BMW (formerly Prestige Cars Inc., Libis) 184 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Bagumbayan, Quezon City
Tel. (02) 638 0734 to 43 / (02) 438 0422 / (0917) 832 2324 / (0920) 276 5653 (Look for Arvin Macanaya)



Get higher income for your money.

Get it from the country's leading mutual fund - ALFM.

Invest in Ayala Life Fixed Income Fund (ALFM) and you get the best possible investment yields which only the Philippines' biggest mutual fund can give.

With a minimum investment of only ₱100,000, you'll get advantages normally enjoyed by large institutional accounts and high networth individuals:

- Professional Fund Management
- Disciplined Approach
- First Class Portfolio
- Superior Gains
- Proven Performance
- Wealth Management
- Life Insurance Protection*
- Trustworthiness

***FREE ₱200,000 life insurance for eligible investors.**

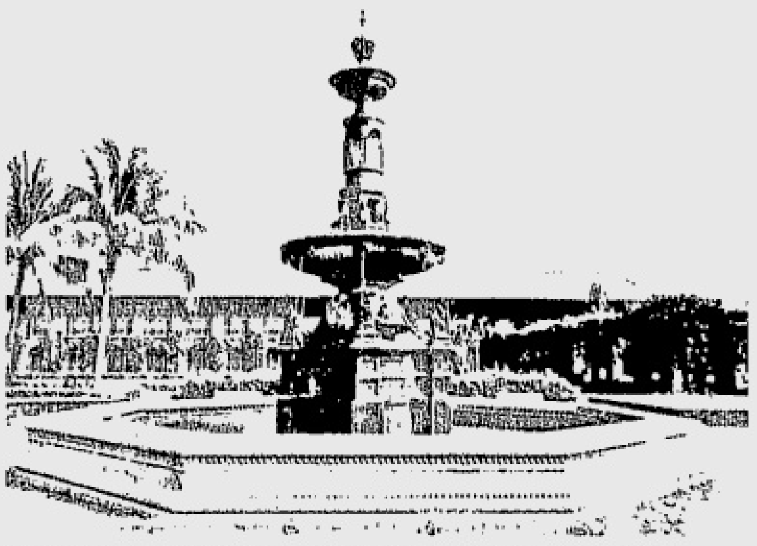
Invest with the No.1. Invest in ALFM today!

For more information, please call
(02) 845-5697/ 98; 245-1605; 845-5033 to 35; (082) 235-3556

AYALA LIFE FIXED INCOME FUND, INC.
The Investors' No. 1 Choice

A mutual fund is an open-end investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in which the [illegible] investment objective. MUTUAL FUNDS ARE NOT DEPOSIT PRODUCTS AND AS SUCH, YIELDS ARE NOT GUARANTEED. Mutual funds are not PDIC-insured. Past performance is not a guarantee of future [illegible]

Locals awarded rights to occupy beach property


DENR order ends dispute over property next to Fort Ilocandia.

LAOAG CITY—The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has given local beach resort operators the preference to apply for a prime property, considered an investment zone, along the seaside village of Calayab here.

The ruling ended a nearly two-year-old land dispute between local operators and the Hong Kong-based owners of Fort Ilocandia Resort Hotel and Casino that started in January last year.

Both are operating businesses on separate beachfront properties along the sand dunes of Calayab beach.

The DENR resolution also reversed an earlier decision of regional executive director Victor Ancheta awarding to the hotel owners the preferential rights to apply for the disputed seaside property, which local residents have been occupying since 1992.

The resolution was signed on Aug. 21 but hotel owners received a copy of the decision only last week.

Environment Secretary Elisea Gozun upheld the rights of cottage operators belonging to the D'Sierto Beach Owners' Association to occupy a five-hectare beachfront based on foreshore lease agreements.

The property sits next to the hotel owned by the Hong Kong-based Fort Ilocandia Property Holdings and Development Corp.

Gozun decided in favor of six applicants: Fredalyn Buyat, the late Ladislao Ruiz, Georgina Mohammed, Constancia Agresor, Rommel Bungcayao and Elena Bagasol.

The six operators had been given clearance to apply for foreshore lease agreements, which they had enjoyed separately since 1987 (in the case of Ruiz) and 1992 (for D'Sierto members) until their lease applications were denied in January last year.

The hotel developers previously claimed preference to apply for the seaside property, citing its rights as a riparian owner.

Based on DENR administrative rules, a riparian owner is given the preference to apply for foreshore lands adjoining their properties.

But Gozun said: "The principle of riparian ownership is applicable where the riparian owner and another person simultaneously file their applications for the same foreshore area."

"However, if the riparian owner did not exercise this right (while) other parties were able to file their applications, actually occupy the area and construct improvements, the riparian owner cannot expect the preferential right to still exist," she said.

The hotel owners filed their lease applications in 2002 for 14 hectares of foreshore lands, including the five hectares occupied by the association members since 1992. *Cristina Arzadon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Gov't asked to keep 4.5-5.5% inflation goal

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas has asked the government economic team to keep this year's inflation target at 4.5-5.5 percent even if the full-year number would likely be well below that range, said Economic Planning Secretary Romulo Neri.

Neri said the BSP might have made that request in view of the continued volatility of the peso which could push prices up.

Yesterday, the peso closed at 54.95 to $1 from 54.755 the previous day.

"The BSP wants some flexibility in their monetary policies so they asked the economic team to keep the inflation target at 4.5-5.5 percent," said Neri in an interview.

The National Economic and Development Authority said the inflation rate in August would likely range between 3 and 3.5 percent due to higher food and fuel prices.

"There is also the peso depreciation to consider," he added.

The inflation in the first seven months had stayed well below the projection.

Neri said that while inflation could go up to 3.5 percent in August, the average for the year would still be within the target.

PGMA opens section of North Luzon tollway

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo recently inaugurated the newly completed 8-kilometer northbound lanes of the Candaba-San Simon segment of the North Luzon Expressway project.

The entire project is actually entering the seventh month of its 24-month construction timetable. The progress and completion of the North Luzon Expressway's rehabilitation, expansion and improvement is closely monitored by the National Economic Development Authority and the Regional Development Council - Regional Project Monitoring Committee, being a key strategic infrastructure project in Central Luzon. It is being implemented by the Manila North Tollways Corp.

The MNTC transaction marks the first toll road deal in the country that was signed under a limited recourse funding and without government guarantee. A flagship infrastructure project of the government, it was the first to be signed under the Macapagal administration.

The project, costing $371 million, is financed through equity infusion ($117.5 million) and loans ($253.5 million) to keep a debt-to-equity ratio of 68.3 to 31.7. Construction of the project commenced last February.

Keeping a step ahead of competition

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

SUCCESS STORY

IF there is one trait that describes Rossana L. Llenado, founder of Ahead Learning Systems Inc., it is that she likes making grand plans, and she works hard at making sure that they come true.

Llenado, for instance, planned as early as her college days at the University of the Philippines in Los Baños that she would have her own business by the time she was 26.

That plan was fulfilled a year earlier, when she started offering tutorial services in her house in Barrio Kapitolyo, Pasig City with just herself, a helper and three teachers, who were all cum laude graduates from UP.

She advertised the tutorial services and had 15 students when she started her review for the UP entrance test in 1995.

"I got the idea to go into the tutorial business at 18 when I was tasked to write a speech for then Senator Alberto Romulo. It was a graduation speech so I had to do some research on education," Llenado, now 34, said in an interview.

Effective tools

In the course of her research, she realized that education was truly important and that there was surely a market out there for services that would help people to get admitted to the schools of their choice, usually top schools such as UP, Ateneo and La Salle.

"I was very much involved in service at that time in Los Baños, so I thought I could offer my services to those talented Filipinos who could go to the school of their choice, if given the right tools such as a comprehensive review or tutorial," Llenado said.

Llenado knew that she was on the right track and the right business formula when all 15 of her first group of students passed the entrance exams in UP.

She further professionalized her operations and in 1997, she established Ahead Tutorial and Review Center with P200,000 in capital.

She was 29, a mother of twin boys and a newcomer to an industry already dominated by two firms.

AHEAD
TUTORIAL & REVIEW
LLENADO with two of her teaching staff.

Rough start

The following year was not exactly the best of times for business because of the Asian currency crisis that led to the downturn of the global and local economies. But the difficult times did not stop her from pursuing her expansion plans.

She remembered calling a meeting with her staff at that time to discuss how they could cut costs and weather the crisis. They considered keeping their rates and cutting down on the number of sessions.

"We ended up adding one more session to our curriculum because we realized that we were in the service business and quality should always be the priority," Llenado said.

Ahead has now become one of the leaders in the tutorial and review course industry based on the performance of its students in college entrance examinations.

Since 1999, Ahead has been registering the highest percentage of reviewees passing the admission tests at UP, Ateneo and La Salle.

"I am very happy in this business because I help two groups at the same time. I help teachers and I help students. I believe that by helping them I also help the country," Llenado said.

Helping the society

Her business was also buoyed by the growth in the tutorial industry in general, as parents look for avenues to help their children excel.

Ahead strives to stay one step ahead of competition by maintaining a pool of highly competent lecturers and tutors, composed primarily of honor graduates and undergraduates from the country's top schools.

Expansion

Ahead has five branches in Metro Manila, with two located in shopping malls.

It is the official review center of the De La Salle Greenhills, Lourdes School of Mandaluyong, Jubilee Christian Academy and St. Mary of the Woods. The Ateneo Parents Council has also tapped its services.

Even the Philippine Senate has commissioned Ahead to prepare its employees for the civil service examination.

Llenado said that all these achievements were made possible by the group's desire to achieve excellence, and this translated in the excellent performance of their students.

MANAGEMENT Association of the Philippines (MAP) president and Ferycor International Management Group head Edward L. Ferreira (3rd from left) presides over the 8th MAP General Membership Meeting while guest speakers Former Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes, National Security Adviser Roilo Golez and Local Government Secretary Jose D. Lina Jr. look on.

Tariff hike seen not enough

By Michelle V. Remo

FARMERS groups said the government's move to increase tariff rates to 1998 levels might not be enough to compensate for the "damage" that the country's low tariff environment had caused the agriculture sector.

The Task Force Food Sovereignty (TFFS), a network of farmer groups and nongovernment organizations, said raising the country's tariffs would not help much to alleviate the plight of small farmers claiming to be badly hurt by cheap imports.

"Even if we place tariffs initially at 100 percent, the framework that is being followed in the WTO states that tariffs will have to be reduced on a regular basis until it reaches zero or very low levels," said TFFS convenor Arze Glipo in an interview.

The group said the huge subsidies granted by developed countries, such as the United States and the European Union, to their farming sector results in the uneven playing field among farm producers. Small farmers, it added, could in no way compete with the $1-billion-per-day in subsidies granted by rich countries to their farmers even if the country's tariffs on imports were raised.

TFFS also expressed concern the World Trade Organization would not put much teeth against the imposition of subsidies by rich and influential countries.

"It (WTO) is conveniently silent on exact figures and deadlines for subsidy reduction, particularly on export subsidies granting greater flexibility to developed countries to further protect their trade distorting mechanisms," the group said in its position paper.

The English lipstick tree's many economic potentials

By Ernesto M. Ordoñez

COMMENTARY

"I KNOW achuete is used for one of my favorite dishes, *kare-kare*. But why is it also called the English lipstick tree?" asked Remmy Rikken, president of the Women in Politics Philippines—the focal point of the Center for Asia-Pacific Women in Politics (CAPWIP) in the country—as we discussed livelihood opportunities that go with political empowerment for Cordillera women. I explained that products like achuete had non-traditional and more lucrative uses such as providing the dye for lipstick. Expanding a product's uses increases its markets and results in more livelihood opportunities. But for maximum benefit, this should be systematically planned instead of happening by chance.

Achuete

Bixa orellana, the scientific term, is commonly known in other countries as annato. It stands alone in its family of plants. It is a profusely fruiting shrub, reaching six to 20 feet tall and ages up to 50 years. There are 50 seeds in each achuete pod. These seeds are processed to obtain dye for the food, cosmetics, and soap industries.

The Encyclopedia of Spices states: "Anatto is used both as a spice and a dye stuff. It is used to color confectionery, batter smoked fish, and cheeses. As an effective natural coloring, it is also used in cosmetics and textile manufacturing." We should take note that there is a great desire at this time to decrease the overabundance of chemicals in our environment. Since achuete is natural, it is now much more in demand than the chemical-based dyes that proliferate in the market. Thus, the English lipstick tree's use is only one of the many exciting opportunities for our achuete today.

Profitability

According to the Department of Agriculture (DA), achuete is commonly grown in backyard gardens. Achuete grows best in both humid tropics but can also thrive well in altitudes up to 12,250 meters. It is harvested in three to four years, after which there is continuous yield for the product.

UPLB professor Rene Espino, former head of the DA's High Value Commercial Crops Program, which is now led by director Ricardo Villo, actively promotes achuete because of its promising profitability. He says that at an average of 625 plants per hectare, the expected yield is 1.5 to 1.8 tons. At P40 a kilo, the expected gross income is P66,000. With expenses of P22,500, the resulting profit is P43,500.

Plant and forget

In Boliney, Abra, where the optimal technology is not yet used, the profit per hectare is P30,000 per year. According to Cordillera DA regional executive director Celestino Maslan, this is, however, far superior to the P10,000 income from other crops that were previously planted there. Not to mention the idle lands that had no income at all. Director Maslan also refers to achuete as the "plant and forget" plant. "You see," he explains, "this plant does not need much input such as fertilizer, pesticides, or irrigation."

With the assistance of the European Union's CHARM Project, the Boliney farmers have already exported their achuete to Taiwan, Japan and India. DA agribusiness coordinator Patricio Anonayo said, "It is not as if we're waiting for buyers. The buyers are knocking at our doors."

In the Kalinga province, Tinglayan Mayor Johnny Maymaya looks at achuete as the vanguard crop with bananas, where peanuts and papayas can be planted in between. He believes that most of his town mates who have gone to Tabuk, Kalinga, will be drawn back to Tinglayan because they will have a better livelihood following this scheme.

Lessons learned

Once the other uses of achuete are explored, markets are opened up, foreign exchange is earned, idle lands are utilized, jobs are created, incomes are increased and the quality of life is improved. In Boliney, Abra, where the UPLB technology has not yet been optimally implemented, the farmers are already much better off. Products like achuete should be promoted with farmers in appropriate areas who often are exposed to only main products such as rice and corn. However, this should not just happen serendipitously. We commend the DA leadership in catalyzing the creation of commodity boards with private sector leadership such as the ones for coffee and corn. We should now follow the spirit behind this move by having private sector-government product action teams for promising products like achuete. The Mango Action Team led by its private sector leader Renato Florencio is an excellent model to follow. Empowered transformative achuete growers can choose their leaders, who will then work with the DA and other government agencies on an achuete master plan with action initiatives in the appropriate areas of the country. This way, promising products like achuete will fulfill its promising potential in improving the lives of our people.

(The author is chair of Agriwatch, a private sector initiative, former Undersecretary of DA and DTI and chair/Secretary, Presidential Flagship Programs and Project. For inquiries or suggestions, e-mail agriwatchphil@yahoo.com or telefax 02-8516635)

Foreign firms eye RP tuna industry

By Christine A. Gaylican

A NUMBER of companies from Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, China and Indonesia have expressed interest in investing in the Philippine tuna industry, according to the Mindanao Business Council.

MBC president Joji Ilagan-Bian said in an interview that these foreign investors recently went to General Santos City to attend the Tuna Congress and explore the prospects of the industry.

Agriculture Secretary Luis P. Lorenzo Jr. said in a recent interview that a Malaysian investor has already expressed firm interest in raising some $40 to $50 million in new investments to put up a tuna canning company following the progress of peace talks in Mindanao.

Lorenzo, however, declined to identify the Malaysian company.

There are currently eight tuna canning firms in the Philippines based in either General Santos or Zamboanga City.

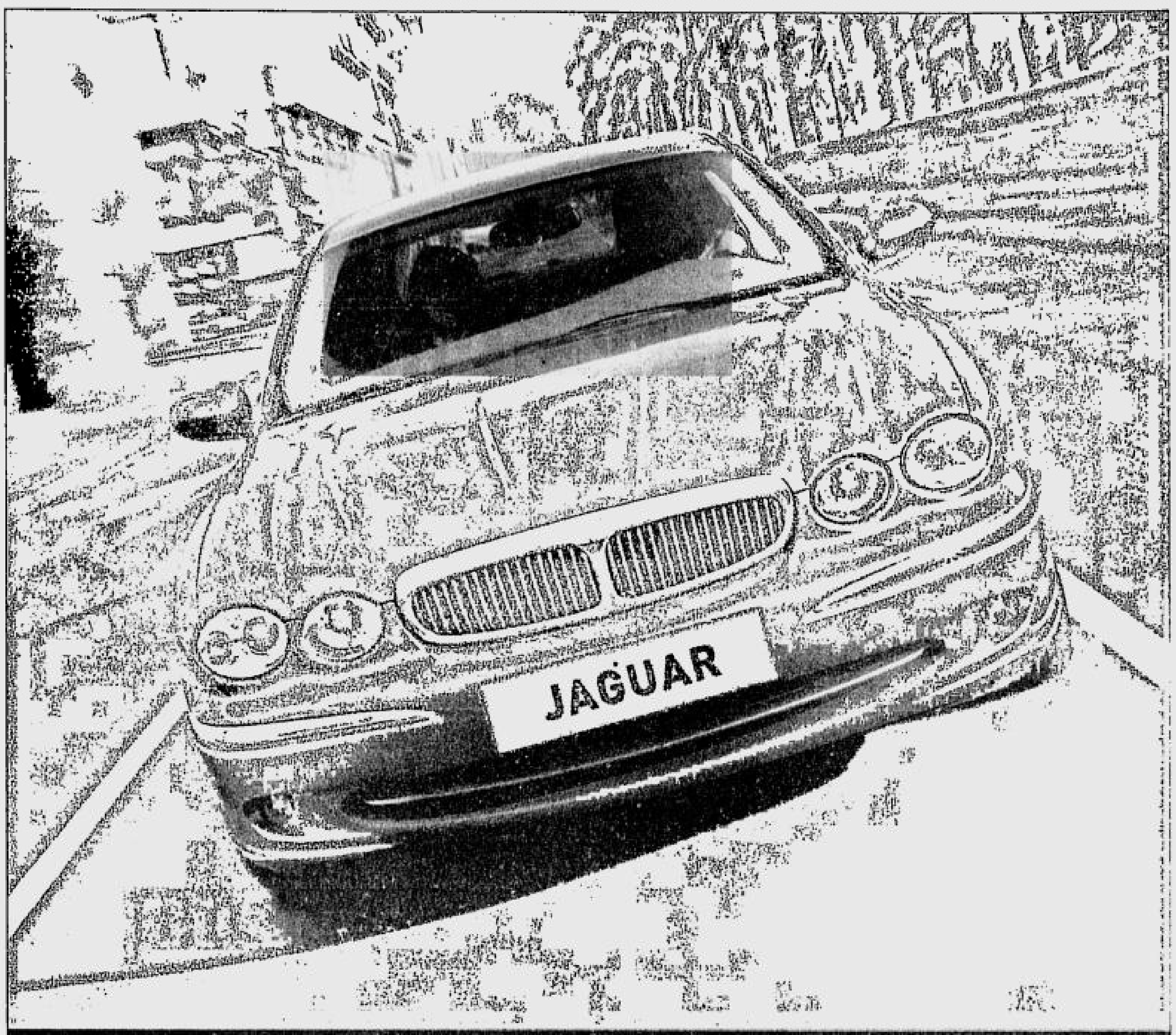
These include First Dominion Corp., Ocean Canning Corp., Celebes Canning Corp., Permex Canning Corp., Miramar Canning Corp., RD Canning Corp., GenTuna Canning Corp. and Sea Trade Canning Corp.

In a related development, the Department of Agriculture expressed confidence that shipments of Philippine aquaculture products to Europe, including prawns, milkfish and *tilapia*, would resume by October after the Philippines passes product standards set by the European Commission.

The EC temporarily banned imports of Philippine aquaculture products last July after the DA's Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources failed to furnish all the documents required to be included in the list of countries that have passed its product standards.

The Philippines exports some $10.2 million worth of prawns, milkfish and *tilapia* to EU annually, accounting for 24 percent of the $43 million worth of marine products exported annually to Europe.

SUBIC'S Better Than Ever
SEMINAR and FAMILY DEALS
OVERNIGHTER W/ 3 FULL MEALS
PLUS MEMORIES TO LAST A LIFETIME
ONLY P645 PER PAX
YOU GET FULLY- FURNISHED TRIPLE-SHARING AIR-CONDITIONED ROOM WITH HOT WATER PLUS 3 FULL-COURSE CAFETERIA MEALS (coffee, egg, rice, meat choice, fruit, b'fast meal - and soup, rice, veggies, viand, dessert, lunch/dinner meals) PLUS CABLE TV • 2 SWIMMING POOLS • GYM PLUS SEMINAR VENUE AND PROPS PLUS FOREST TREK WITH BATROOSTS • BIRDVIEWS • MONKEYS IN WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES • HANGING BRIDGE & TREEHOUSE PARK PLUS ALL THAT ONLY SUBIC OFFERS • DUTY FREE SHOPPING • CASINO • CLEAN BEACHES • MARINE & WILDLIFE PARKS • JUNGLE SURVIVAL
CALL CROWN PEAK DIRECT: CUBI, SUBIC FREEPORT;
TEL.: 047 252-9236; TELEFAX: 047 252-6658; (0918) 929-5052/ 5069/ 5049; (0920) 903-9112



This Cat is coming right at you.
Catch the Cat. With a Bullet Finance Plan!

Now you can catch this cat with the flexibility of a Jaguar Bullet Finance Plan. These plans start at P35,128* for 36 mos. and have adjustable DP's and end-term payments to suit your finances. Of course, a P2.1M cash payment is still the quickest way to catch it. These prices are subject to change upon implementation of the New Excise Tax Law. Visit our showrooms today for details.

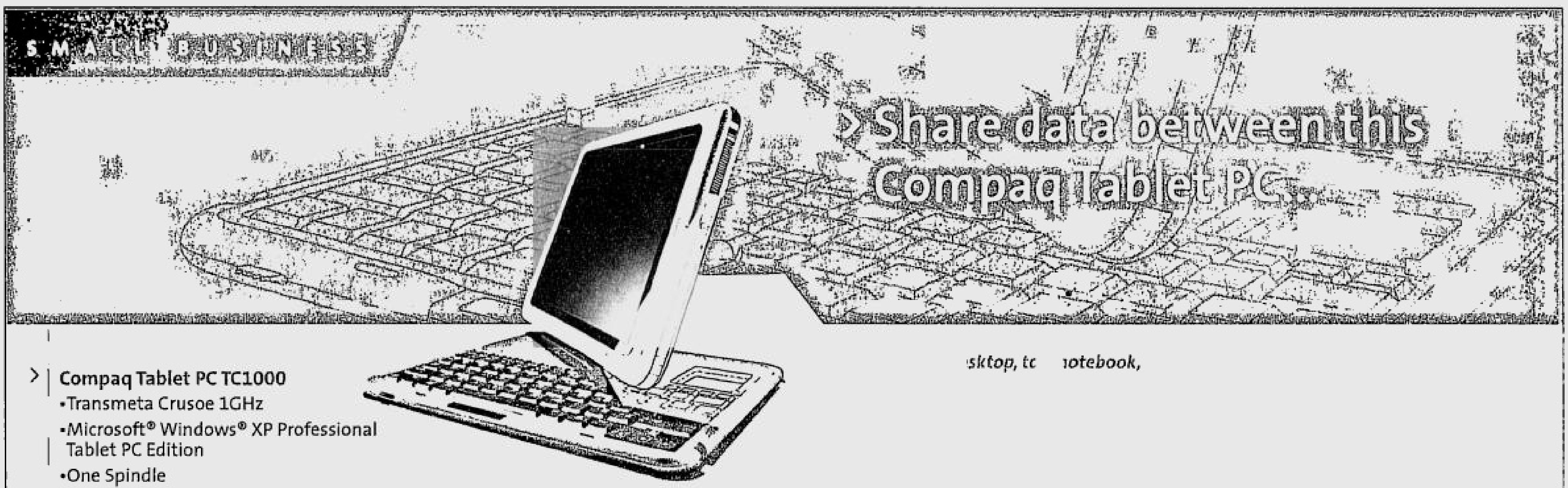
X-TYPE 2.0 & 2.5 V6

Jaguar Makati: ENZO Bldg., 399 Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City, Tel. 897-8888, E-mail. sales@jaguar.com.ph
Jaguar Ortigas: 88 ADB Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Tel. 633-0185, E-mail. sales@jaguar.com.ph
Jaguar Service: 3904 Quingua St.(near EDSA /Buendia), Makati City, Tel: 881-7252; E-mail. service_ctr@jaguar.com.ph

JAGUAR
Born to perform

*P 35,128 net monthly amortization for 36 months on 2.0 Classic model with SRP of P2,100,000 and 30% DP plus 30% End-term Bullet Payment. Subject to credit approval.

SMALL BUSINESS



> Compaq Tablet PC TC1000
•Transmeta Crusoe 1GHz
•Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional Tablet PC Edition
•One Spindle
•25.9cm (10.2") XGA TFT Display
•256MB SDRAM
•30GB HDD
•Integrated sound
•56 kbps
•10/100 LAN
•One-year warranty

PhP 103,850
VAT inclusive

sktop, tc notebook,

With HP, you always get more.

absolutely FREE
2003

FOR MORE INFORMATION
call (632) 867-3557 or Toll-Free 1-800-1331-4488
or email ph.contact@hp.com

COMPAQ
hp invent

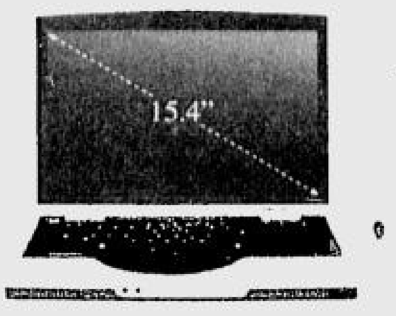
Compaq recommends Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional for Mobile Computing
©2003 Hewlett-Packard Development Company, L.P.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2295 Series of 2003.

"When it comes to notebooks, HP is No. 1 worldwide.*"

HP notebooks provide you with the best solution and widest range of notebooks for small, medium or large-sized business environments. With the latest technology to back it up, you can count on HP notebooks for stability, consistency, low cost of ownership, superior manageability, first-rate reliability and support. So spend less of your time managing your notebooks. With these HP portables at hand, you have more time enjoying the benefits of mobile computing the way you want it.

*based on recent IDC report for Q1 of 2003

Tablet PC seamlessly wireless



nx7000 15.4" widescreen

nc4000 ultra portable notebook

nx9000/9010 all-in-one notebook

People, Events & Products

E-mail: pr_pep@inquirer.com.ph
aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Aries Espinosa

Experts share knowledge at Franchise 2003

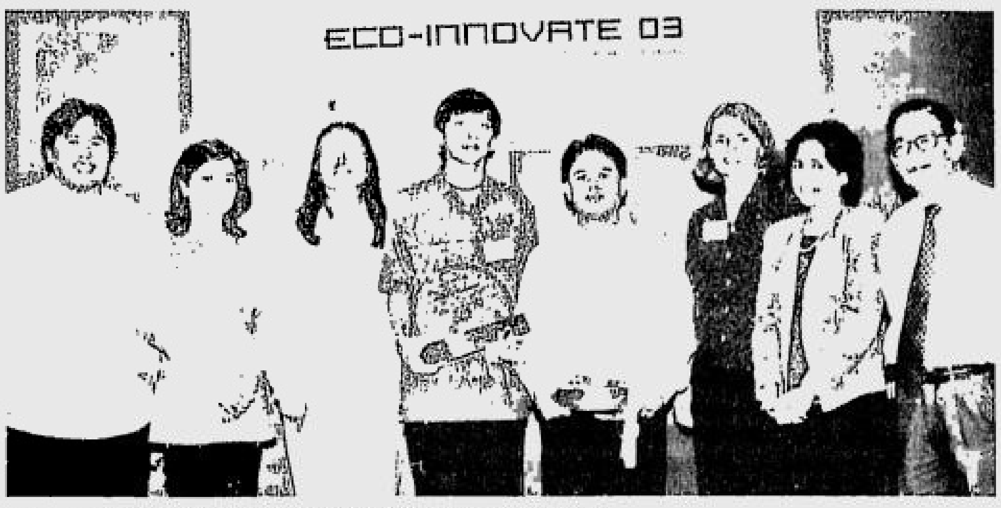
WITH the Philippines now considered as a mature franchise market and with the most advanced in franchising system in the Asian region, franchise enthusiasts can learn more from international and local franchise authorities at this year's biggest franchising event, the 11th Philippine International Franchise Conference and Expo (PIFCE). Dubbed as Franchise 2003 with the theme "Franchising-The Formula for Success", the four-day event will be held from Sept 11 to 14 at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC). This was announced by Philippine Franchise Association (PFA) president Bing Sibal-Limjoco.

Limjoco said this year's conference topics and speakers include "Trends, Opportunities and Challenges in the Asia Region" by World Franchise Council (WFC) vice-chair for Asia Samie Lim; "Communications: the Foundation for Successful Franchise Relationships" by author Greg Nathan; "Turning the International Marketplace into Your Formula for Growth" by Charles Weeks of A&W, Seattle's Best, All American Food, KFC, Taco Bell; "Business Killers for Franchisees and Franchisors-Avoiding the Big Blunders" by Graham McMillan of Maret International USA; "How to Manage the Growth of Your Company and its Brand" by lawyer Claro Certeza, Jollibee; "Financial Bootcamp for Franchisors and Franchisees" by Raffy dela Rosa, president, Chowking; "Franchise Support as Your Cornerstone for Growth" by Roberto Ocampo, CEO, Max's; "Franchise Relations: The Key to Franchisee and Customer Satisfaction" by Brendan Yu, Jollibee Franchises Association; "Tried and True Franchise Formulas for Success" by Jed Arboleda, Bench; "Keeping Your Largest Zees Happy: A Panel of Experts" led by Martin Lorenzo, Pancake House and Ricardo Mercado, Red Ribbon; and, "Best Practices: A Panel of Most Promising Franchises" with Jose Magsaysay, Potato Corner and Ricardo Andres, Candy Corner.

For inquiries, call the PFA Secretariat at 687-0366/67; fax 687-0635; e-mail pfa@nwave.net or call WorldExco at 834-7408; 891-8638.

The biggest gathering of the country's top franchises, the annual PIFCE is composed of four major events in one show. These are the conference on Sept. 11 and 12 where franchisors and franchisees can learn from the franchise experts; an expo at the PICC Forum from Sept. 12 to 14 where local and foreign franchisors will have the opportunity to showcase their franchises and expand their businesses; workshops on Sept. 11 and 12 where successful franchisors present and offer their franchises to highly qualified potential franchisees and where business matching happens; and a Mini Master in Franchise Management on Sept. 9 and 10 at the Asian Institute of Management. Franchise 2003 is sponsored by PLDT Business Solutions, GMA-7, Philippine Star, Entrepreneur Philippines, Copylandia Office Systems, Montanara, Wave 89.1, Imaginimage, Reyes Haircutters, Australian Trade Commission, Araneta Centers Inc., Bench, Chowking, Sari-Sari Breadstore, Sure Express Worldwide, Julie's Bakeshop, Bayo, Penshoppe, and Scitech.

The 11th PIFCE is organized by the PFA in cooperation with the Philippine Retailers Association (PRA); Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). It is supported by the World Franchise Council (WFC) and the Asia-Pacific Franchise Council (WFC).



2 FILIPINO REPRESENTATIVES TO SYDNEY
Two young college graduates from Mindanao were awarded by Bayer the honor of representing the Philippines at the Eco-Innovate youth forum in Sydney, Australia July 13 to 18 for their new and outstanding ideas on promoting sustainable development. Shown are the winners with the board of judges, from left, lawyer Fernandino Concepcion, assistant director of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Margie Quimpo-Espino, business sub-section editor of the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Odette Alcantara, founding member of Mother Earth, Lemuel Non and Bonar Laureto, Eco-Innovate winners, Dr. Iris Loettgert, VP for corporate services of Bayer Philippines, Rizalina Bautista, faculty member of the Development Academy of the Philippines and Dr. Christopher Silverio, chief of the environmental division of the Department of Science and Technology.

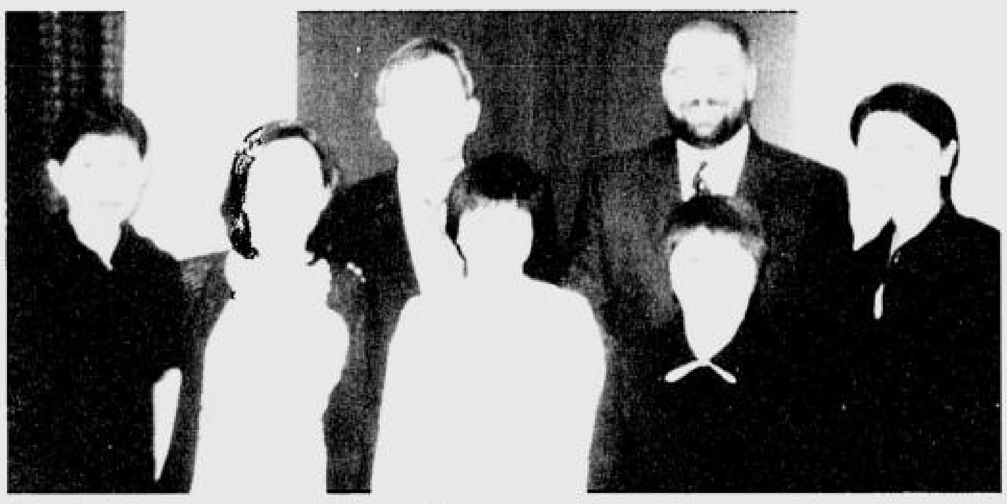
SC Johnson names new GM

REINHARD A. Schellner Ph.D. has been appointed general manager of SC Johnson Philippines effective July 1. Schellner joined SCJ this January as a result of SC Johnson's worldwide acquisition of the Bayer household business. He has 15 years of general management experience, most recently as general manager-Bayer Philippines consumer care and has proven expertise in marketing, sales, distribution, logistics and operations, finance and controlling. He has also held several leadership positions, including CEO of Novartis Health Care and managing director of Ciba-Geigy, both in the Philippines, as regional general manager for Ciba-Geigy based in Kenya and as COO of Sacom based in Saudi Arabia.

Schellner holds a Ph.D. in biology from the University of Vienna, including completing his thesis at Harvard University as a Research and Fulbright Fellow. In addition, he has a master's of science in biology and chemistry and a master's of agriculture and economics, both from the University of Vienna in Austria.

SC Johnson is a 5th generation family-owned, globally operating company of more than 100 years that markets effective, high quality brand-name consumer household products ranging from insect control to home cleaning, air care, home storage and car care products. Among its well-known brands that are successfully marketed in the Philippines are Johnson Wax, Pronto, Glade Magic Gel, Glade Touch & Fresh, Pledge, Raid, Off! Lotion Insect Repellent, Toilet Duck, Glo Metal Polish, Pledge, Ziploc and now includes Baygon, Bayfresh and Autan.

HBC CELEBRATES PARTNERSHIP WITH SALONS
For years, women have regarded their neighborhood salon as a haven to beautify, pamper and care for themselves. It is convenient, affordable and reliable. Personalized service and attention to the needs of the Filipina is paramount. HBC has been the silent partner of salon owners for 10 years now. By providing pocket-friendly and high-quality products and equipment, HBC was able to help salon owners fulfill their dream of making a profitable business out of the beauty industry aside from helping them to be more competitive. HBC Home of Beauty Exclusives hosted an event to celebrate this partnership Aug. 14. Titled 'HBC: An Exclusive Partnership', the event was held at HBC's corporate center in Quezon City. Shown at the event were, from left, HBC COO Susan Loyola, HBC CEO Dr. Rosalinda Ang-Hortaleza, Philippine Hairdressers Cooperative Inc president Ricky Reyes, HBC endorser Tintin Bersola and HBC buying manager Gabby Domingo.



EXCELLENCE IN LIFE INSURANCE
First Guarantee Life Assurance Co Inc (First Life) president and CEO Peter G. Coyiuto CLU (2nd row, left) heads top company producers and qualifying members of the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT), the world's premier association for the best financial services sales professionals, to the 2003 Las Vegas annual meeting. Dedicated to the MDRT standard of professional approach to life insurance sales and service excellence are (from left) First Life's Lourdes T. Yao LUTCF and first-time qualifier Lorna C. Lao. With them during the group's agency visit in Los Angeles is Eric D. Kaufman (2nd row, right) of the Northwestern Mutual Financial Network, ranked by Fortune Magazine for the 18th time as America's most admired company in the financial services industry.

Kiwanis Club of Cainta Greenpark holds anniversary, induction rites

THE KIWANIS Club of Cainta-Greenpark, Key No. 11474, is slated to hold its induction of new set of officers and new members for administrative year 2003-2004 coinciding with its 18th anniversary celebration on Sept. 6, 7 p.m., at the Riverbend Hotel and Convention Center, Marikina City.

The new officers and board of directors, led by its incoming club president Jun M. Sambalilo, will be installed by Division III-C Lt Governor Junie Nadal.

"We have already lined up our projects and I am counting on the support of our members," said incoming president Jun Sambalilo. Among his goals are to increase the club's commitment on community development like health and environmental cleanliness, develop and maintain high levels of social, business and professional standards, expand the operation of the club in the promotion for the improvement of membership growth.

Rep. Francis G. Escudero, senior deputy majority floor leader of the House of Representatives, and broadcast journalist Kaye O. Dacer, host of radio programs "Aksyon Ngayon" and "Usapang de Campanilla" of DZMM, ABS-CBN are the invited guest speakers.

Aside from Sambalilo, other newly elected officers to be inducted are Roberto Alip, 1st vice president, Mario Beltran, 2nd vice president, Carlos Enriquez, secretary, Rolando Morta, assistant secretary, Rey Lipana, treasurer, Reggie Manalo, assistant treasurer, Fernando Malvar, auditor, Henry Ramos and Rudy de Jesus, PROs.

Composing the board of directors are Ruben Aque, Jun Figuracion, Marvin Angeles, Efren Villarosa, Rannie Matias and Lory Estrada. Past president Rey Torrecampo is the Lt Governor-elect.

A thriving organization of service-minded men and women who respond to the unique needs of their communities, the Kiwanis Club International was founded in 1915 and headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana. It has more than 13,000 clubs in 79 countries with more than 600,000 members worldwide.

belines
belines
PUTTING YOU AHEAD

GLOBELINES BRINGS ON 'LECHON'
Balayan, Batangas is known to celebrate the feast of its patron saint St. John the Baptist in a most unique way-the Parada ng Lechon. This June 24, the people of Balayan went out into the streets not only to douse water on passersby but to parade their succulent roasted pigs, lechon, which the town is well known for. Globelines, the telephone service of Globe Telecom, got into the festivities this year as it joined the Parada ng Lechon where it had its own float that highlighted Globelines Payment and Service Centers. Globelines also gave away many prizes to lucky contestants during the parade. Batangas is one of the service areas of Globelines. Shown is Globelines' entry to the Parada ng Lechon-a lechon in uniform manning a Globelines Payments and Services Center float.

Cory, Luli to grace Metrobank 41st year

METROPOLITAN Trust and Banking Co. (Metrobank) celebrates its 41st founding anniversary today with Former President Corazon Aquino and Presidential daughter Luli Arroyo as guests of honor.

Ms Aquino, together with Senator Ramon Magsaysay Jr. and Education Secretary Edilberto C. De Jesus, chair and co-chair of the final board of judges, and Commission on Higher Education chair Brother Rolando Dizon FSC will confer the awards on this year's 12 outstanding teachers at the Metrobank Plaza Auditorium at 5 p.m.

At the same time, Metrobank will also present the Livable Communities Award to selected cities in Metro Manila and their respective mayors to recognize the achievements and developments that have been made to improve their communities. MMDA chair Bayani Fernando will confer the award together with Metrobank chair George SK Ty.

Meanwhile, Ms Luli Arroyo, director of the Foundation for Information Technology, Education, and Development, will grace the Bank's donation turnover rites at 10:30 a.m. Metrobank will turn over P10 million in grants to various charitable institutions and civic organizations, among which are the Make-A-Wish Foundation Philippines, Childhope Asia Philippines, Philippine Institute for the Deaf, Congressional Spouses Foundation, Inc, Marie Eugenie Institute, Child Justice League Inc., and Tabang Mindanaw.

Metrobank begins its 41st anniversary festivities with a Thanksgiving Mass and the annual Service Awards to honor loyal employees who have faithfully served the Bank for the past 30, 25, and 20 years.

This year, there are eight 30-year service awardees led by senior vice president Dennis G. Suico, managing director of the Bank's subsidiary in Hong Kong, First Metro International Investment Co. On the other hand, the 25-year service awardees are led by senior executive vice president Samuel S. Yap, head of the bank's marketing group.

Metrobank was established in 1962 in Binondo, Manila by a group of businessmen led by George SK Ty. It opened its first branch in Divisoria in 1963.

Metrobank now has over 800 domestic and international branches, offices, and subsidiaries. It has branches in key cities all over the world such as New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Guam, Hong Kong, Beijing, Shanghai, Taipei, Kaoshiung, Taichung, Tokyo, Osaka, Seoul, Pusan, London, and Flushing.

Clips

EQ Dry 'Soft Spot' tour

THE "SOFT Spot" mall tour was launched at Robinsons Place Manila by EQ Dry Diapers-an activity center that features a diaper changing station, video showing and game area, digital photo corner, on-site free pedia consultation, product demonstration and premium items redemption. The mall tour will run throughout the major malls in Luzon and Visayas until Nov. 23. Catch the promo at the following: SM Megamall Sept. 5 to 7, SM Southmall Sept. 12 to 14, Sta. Lucia Mall Sept. 19 to 21, SM Pampanga Sept. 26 to 28, SM North Edsa Oct. 3 to 5, Bay Citimall Batangas Oct. 10 to 12, SM Iloilo Oct. 24 to 26, Robinsons Bacolod Nov. 7 to 9 and SM Cebu Nov. 21 to 23. For further details on the promo, see print ads and flyers.

Baste IV-Red '93 Reunion

ALL SSC-R Cavite IV-Red batch '93 are enjoined to attend the final preparation meeting on Sept. 6 at 7 p.m., for their upcoming reunion on Sept. 27 which will start at 8 a.m. onwards. If you are not yet registered, please bring P500 for the reunion fund and kindly bring food and/or drinks for the potluck party this Saturday that will be held at April Igtiben's house in Remelville Subdivision, Noveleta, Cavite. For details, classmates can call the following: Alvin Manalo: 438-1051/0919-4121797, April Igtiben: 438-1954/0917-8140409, Arnold Idio: 431-1255/0920-4057755, and Benedict Muncal at 438-7063/0918-9404986.

UP Prep golden anniversary reunion

THE UP Prep School will be holding its 50th anniversary reunion of alumni and faculty on Jan. 3, 2004 at the NBC Tent in Taguig, announced overall chair Jejomar Binay of Class 1958 Over 500 graduates from all over the country and overseas are expected to attend the grand reunion and pay tribute to an outstanding institution, which was the finest secondary school in the country from 1954 to 1975. The UP Prep was integrated with the UP High in 1976. The reunion will feature a program specially developed for the occasion, and highlight the institution's history as narrated by alumni and faculty who will share their recollections of "The Best Memories from the Best High School", which is the theme of the celebration. Project director Tom C. Banguis Jr (1959) enjoins alumni to call the secretariat at 811-5617 and ask for Marilyn Santiago. Interested alumni can also e-mail their inquiries or register at tcb@abcom-ph.com or dserrano@l-next.

Metrobank Outstanding Teachers 2003

Texts by Joel Nigos, Marlet Salazar and Raquel Gomez

A MILLION roads branched out from where the 12 stood. Many of these were well-paved, promising fame and fortune at the end of each. But they looked at the dusty, unpaved trail--the one least taken by others who journeyed before them. Perhaps this path led to obscurity. This road led to nothing but suffering and regret. But the 12 already made their choices. 'This road,' they said, 'would be the path of kings someday.' And the 12 immediately set out to pave and widen the road as they walked on it, for they were here not just for their journey, but for the journey of the children that would come after them. These are our teachers, and the best of them share their stories of selflessness for the future.

SHOWN are (from left, standing) Ma. Luisa D. Gibraltar, Lourna Poculan, Lilia G. Ramos, Samuel Soliven, Dahlia Fabillar, Renato Carvajal, Jaime An Lim and Quena N. Lee-Chua. Seated, (from left)Salvacion R. Cabucal, Marilou T. Yogyog, Evelyn Sorolla and Sonia Daquila

Elementary Level

Inspired by a Teacher

FOR Marilou Yogyog, being a teacher is really downright challenging. She says that to be a good mentor, one should be well-equipped professionally and well-rounded to meet all the responsibilities and challenges of the job.

"Teaching entails a lot of preparation like making lesson plans and instructional materials to make the teaching-learning process meaningful and fruitful. Attending to co-curricular activities which contribute to the rich experiences of the learners is part of the teacher's role," she relates.

It was her father who influenced her to pursue teaching. Her father was a teacher himself and though she knows that the teaching profession is not that financially rewarding, she saw sense in it.

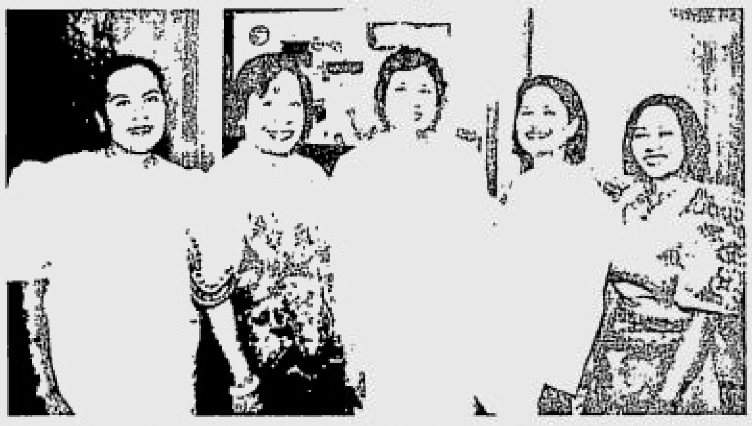
"As a teacher, I could be an instrument of change for my pupils. I could guide them and help them achieve their goals in life thereby making them better citizens of the country," she says.

Yogyog says she regards the outstanding teacher award as recognition of her dedication and commitment to her chosen vocation, and everything she has done to make teaching a truly noble profession.

She earned her degree in BS Elementary Education at Saint Louis College in San Fernando, La Union. She also has Master of Arts degrees in Filipino and Educational Technology from Baguio Central University and the University of the Philippines in Diliman, respectively.

Yogyog has been teaching for 16 years, 12 years of which at Lagawe Central School where she currently teaches. She handles Grade VI pupils with Filipino as her major field of specialization. She brings great honor to the Ifugao province by becoming the first teacher from her school to win as Outstanding Teacher.

She counts among her legacies in education the indigenous materials she designed, which were adopted by her division.



FROM left, Marilou T. Yogyog, Salvacion R. Calabucal, Ma. Luisa D. Gibraltar, Lilia G. Ramos and Lourma Paculan.

Giving special love to special children

IF you think teaching as a profession is challenging enough, consider Salvacion Calabucal.

Sally, as she is fondly called, is a special education teacher for children who are visually impaired and with other disabilities, and of out-of-school youths.

In pursuing her profession, Calabucal believes that God has prepared a place for everyone where nobody should be left out in a corner helpless and hopeless.

"My classroom and the school as a whole is a place where all children should feel valued.

Each one is unique and should be given the same opportunities as everyone else for him to cope in the world," she says.

As coordinator of the Busilak sa Paglingap SPED Center, a school within the Hen. Pio del Pilar Elementary School, she says, it is her responsibility "to provide a context for persons with special needs and those out-of-school youths to express their needs and receive the necessary support and training."

Calabucal teaches children who are visually impaired and those with other disabilities on weekdays and the out-of-school youths through the NFE Program every Saturday.

Love, dedication and diligence as a teacher are also very evident in this Outstanding Teacher. She pursued a degree on SPED Specialization on Visual Impairment at Philippine Normal University in 1997. To further advance in her chosen vocation, she's now taking up Braille Transcribing English Proficiency I & II (SPED 599) also at PNU.

She has also attended international as well as national, regional, division and district level trainings. Her international stints brought her to New York and Massachusetts where she equipped herself with more knowledge on teaching visually impaired children and multiple disabilities.

Though she did not initially plan to be a teacher, she says she believes that her ending up as one is part of God's divine plan.

"I feel fulfilled. And with this award, I can say I'm now reaping the fruits of what I have planted in all those 27 years. It means a lot to me as a teacher, and as a SPED teacher at that. The lives I've touched, especially those of special children, supersede all the material things I may have in my lifetime," she says.

More than a teacher

SHE was only four years old when she knew she would be a teacher. And she recalls how her mother cried then because she wanted her to be a nurse. Forty years into teaching, Ma. Luisa Gibraltar says she wouldn't have it any other way.

"I still enjoy going to school everyday, preparing my day's lessons and feeling the love my pupils give me. I'm also happy giving them back the love as a teacher who cares for their well-being," shares Gibraltar.

A native of Bacolod City where she spent her first 13 years as a teacher, she later moved to Guimbal, Iloilo, when she got married. Her husband hails from the said town. There at Igcocolo Elementary School in Igcocolo, Guimbal, Iloilo, she spent the rest of her 27 years inculcating in the minds of her pupils the importance of education. Gibraltar believes that education is the best tool to fight poverty.

A teacher of English, a writer and poet, she admits that she is strict as a teacher but at the same time, treats her pupils with love and understanding. The relationship she has nurtured with her pupils has gone beyond the classroom because even when they are already grown-ups, some of them still seek her advice, and she gladly gives it—like she's their own mother.

"They even get me as a sponsor in their weddings," she says.

Aside from feeling the sense of fulfillment as a teacher, Luisa is also very happy as a mother. Her three children all are professionals now. Her eldest daughter is a nurse in Chicago while the second is also a nurse in London. Her youngest son, who followed her footsteps, teaches at the Lyceum of Batangas.

Luisa says she'll share her monetary award with the Church where she's actively involved now, the school where she teaches, and with the community.

"I'm giving everything out. This is God's gift so I want to share all of it with the people," she says.

On a noble mission

LILIA Ramos has found a different approach in teaching, and based on the feedback from her pupils - it works.

"My pupils find me funny most of the time. That's because I want to create a relaxed atmosphere in class," she says.

Ramos adds that with a somewhat liberated atmosphere in the classroom, the pupils' fear of tests, recitations, etc., disappear. The pupils feel more "at home" thereby making the learning process more enjoyable.

"This helps my pupils learn easily," she notes.

A native of Jaro, Iloilo City, and now 28 years in the profession, she now teaches at the SPED-Integrated School for Exceptional Children in Iloilo City. She says that as a Science teacher, she finds fulfillment in knowing that she has prepared her pupils for the laboratory of life.

"They are now equipped with the necessary problem-solving skills that will provide them the path to a better future," she says.

Ramos regards teaching as a mission, one which involves utmost dedication to the service.

"It becomes an act of unselfish commitment to change lives for the better. Thus, development of a positive attitude is a common denominator in all learning areas. It is not enough that pupils are developed academically but the ability to face life's challenges is also of great importance. This can only be done if the teacher has a mission in her heart," she explains.

She adds further that a teacher with a mission will exhaust all means to develop the pupil's potentials to the maximum.

Asked about her teaching philosophy, she says, "As long as I'm teaching, nobody goes out of my door a nobody. He has to become a somebody because I'm going to train him to become one someday. To excel in whatever he does, interact with society, develop his skills fully. Training the child is really my main philosophy in life."

Inspiring a small town to dream big

"A TEACHER always makes a difference in a pupil's life. He or she makes or unmakes the child's future," so says Lourma Poculan, a

ELEMENTARY/ B10

Celebrate life's big events without cash worries
INTRODUCING
Metrobank Credit Cards'
BEAT
BIG EVENTS AFFORDABLE TERMS
WEDDING
DEBUT
BIRTHDAY
BAPTISM
ANNIVERSARY
GRADUATION

Now, you can charge catering expenses, venue and entertainment fees, video and photo services, and other essentials that make a joyous occasion more memorable to Metrobank Credit Cards' Big Events Affordable Terms - easy installments up to 12 months at only 1.25%* interest/month

All it takes are 2 easy steps:

① Present quotation or official receipt** at any of Metrobank's 600 branches nationwide.

② Get your check in an hour.

- Promo period is from July 25-October 31, 2003.
- Minimum transaction is P3,000 and/or monthly amortization of at least P500.
- Payment plans at 3, 6, 9 or 12 months.

* Add-on rate based on principal amount, provided you pay your monthly bill in full.
**Quotations and official receipts must be dated January 1-October 31, 2003.

Metrobank Card Corporation

what other expenses you can charge to BEAT, please call our 24-hour, 7-day Customer Service at 8-700-700 or domestic toll-free 1-800-1-888-5775 when outside Metro Manila, or go to any Metrobank branch.

If you don't have a Metrobank Credit Card yet, APPLY NOW! Upon approval, avail of Metrobank Credit Cards' BEAT instantly!
Just fill out the form and fax to 858-8890 to 91.

Yes, I'm interested! Please send me a Metrobank Credit Card application form.
Name____________________
Address____________________
Tel. No.: (Home)__________ (Office)__________
E-mail:____________________

High-School Level

Living a simple life to do great things

THERE are those inspiring rags to riches stories you often hear or read.

But in Renato Carvajal's case, his riches are not measured by his paycheck. His riches are weighed by his contributions as an educator for 29 years.

"Teaching can be the most powerful profession because teachers fashion lives and the future," he said.

Carvajal is the enthusiastic Religion and Values Education teacher of first year high school students at the Ateneo de Manila HS.

His education was mostly funded by scholarships, and now he is on his way to earning his Ph.D in Theology from Loyola School of Theology, Ateneo de Manila University.

It is interesting to note that Carvajal at the age of 6 was already earning as a *pan de sal* vendor. But he still chose a not-so-high-paying albeit noble profession. "I stayed in this job because of my desire to live a simple but meaningful life," he said.

"His teaching methodology is best described as 'creative'," wrote ADMHS principal Carmela Oracion in her recommendation letter.

Having won a Catholic Mass Media Award for a short story he wrote, it supports the observation of many that he is an engaging storyteller.

Aside from being an editor of various religious publications being used as instructional tools in schools, he was able to produce textbooks and instructional materials that are also being used in many schools all over the country, and even in some Asian countries.

After several years in the profession, Carvajal learned to design his own lesson plans. Because of his unique style, the Communication Foundation for Asia asked his permission "to use the lesson plans on the sacraments become the basis of a catechetical project for the foundation."

He considers Christ as the greatest teacher that he admires. He describes Christ as "the teacher par excellence."

"He mastered his subject matter (the Good News), he knew and loved his students (listeners), and was aware of their context (He spoke in parables). In his person, the message and the medium were one."

"There is no wasted time in teaching," he said. "I would not exchange it for any other job in the world. Every school day, well spent, is already a reward in itself."

Upholding the dignity of teaching

IT IS impossible not to admire teachers who opt to live and practice their profession in rural areas.

And Dahlia Fabillar is just one of those who is determined to uphold the integrity of the profession.

Fabillar teaches Biology at the Alubijid National Comprehensive School in Misamis Oriental.

"Teaching is a vocation, a call to serve humanity," Fabillar said.

With a degree in Agriculture, she was tasked to head the Future Farmers of the Philippines school chapter organization.

Fabillar chooses to be called a "facilitator" for she believes her students must be given the chance to interact freely with their teachers and classmates.

To further raise the quality of her teaching methods, she regularly attends seminars and training programs. She received a scholarship from the Department of Science and Technology for a Diploma in Biology. The lack of Biology teachers in her school prompted her to pursue it.

"Teachers who keep learning well, keep teaching well," she said.

A few years ago, Fabillar had the opportunity to attend a training sponsored by the University of Queensland, Graduate School of Education, Brisbane, Australia.

She was instrumental in the implementation of the 1990 Secondary Education Development Program as Regional Technology and Home Economics I in Region 10.

Principal Maximo Natindim Jr. describes the first ever awardee of the school "as a person who maintains a high image of moral integrity in the conduct of her profession."

The religious science teacher

WHEN he talks he might be mistaken for a Religion teacher but he is not. Samuel Soliven actually teaches high school Physics at St. Mary University in Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya where he also earned his Doctor of Philosophy in Mathematics degree just this year.

Soliven did his province proud by being the first teacher from Nueva Vizcaya to win in the Metrobank Search.

He is not only a teacher, according to him, but a missionary as well. These very words validate his commitment to teaching not just in the classroom but outside of it as well. "I will teach to inspire young minds and my life experiences will serve as my instructional material."

"SQ should not be set aside because it is through this that the other 'quotients' are empowered," he said.

SQ simply means "spiritual quotient" where Soliven draw most of his energy to teach.

Soliven is also a textbook writer and a former radio host in his province's DWRV through a show called "Pagadalan iti Tangatang School-on-the-Air" where he taught Science and Technology in the vernacular.

Soliven's paper qualified for a presentation at the Hawaii International Conference in Education in Honolulu last January this year.

He is also sensitive to the needs of his students. But he also feels that his students are his inspiration in staying in the profession. "The teaching profession needs not only teachers who are intellectually capable but also emotionally stable," Soliven said.

He posed a question to the popular quote from Jose Rizal that "The youth is the hope of the land": Who will inspire the youth so that they deserve to be called "Hope of the land"?

Bringing out the best in students

STUDENTS of Iloilo National High School (INHS) has Dr. Evelyn Sorolla to thank for preparing them to face a tougher world in college.

Dr. Sorolla heads the Special Science class of the school. She developed a thesis-writing guide for high school students to help them write their own research.

"Teachers groom their students to prepare them for a more competitive life ahead," she said.

Her desire to educate people is not limited to the youth. The brains behind the "Balik-Paaralan Para sa Mga Out-of-School Adults", she inspires the underprivileged adults to give education a second try.

Dr. Sorolla, who is the first awardee of the school, also promotes culture and the arts. In the past, she cooked up cultural shows to bring

HIGH-SCHOOL/B10

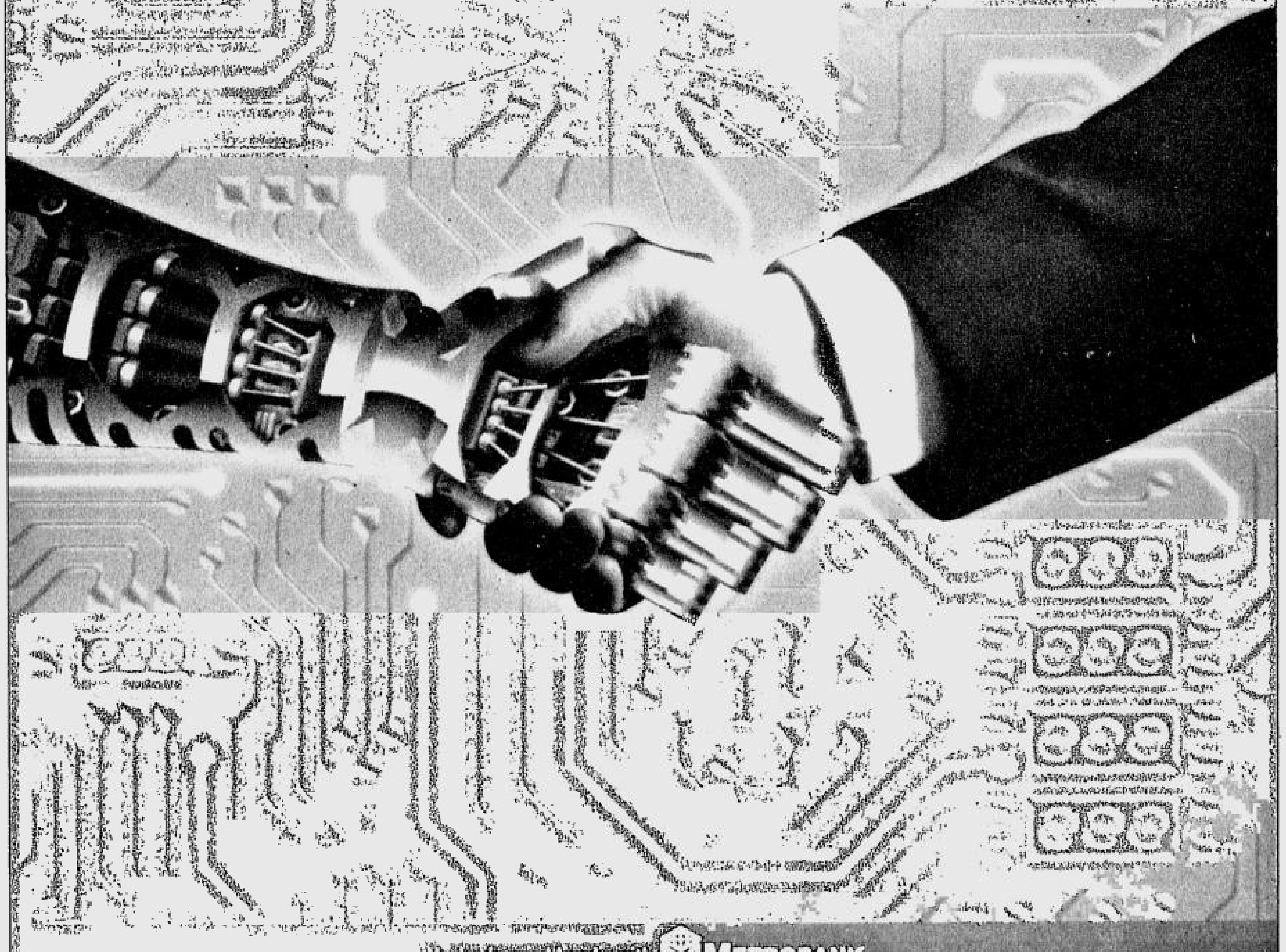
SHOWN are (from left) Samuel Soliven, Dahlia Fabillar, Evelyn Sorolla and Renato Carvajal

Metrobank

Moving forward,
hand in hand.

Through good times and adversities, Metrobank was and will always be your reliable partner. That's because beyond helping your savings and investments grow, it is also our goal to always be responsive to your ever-changing needs. Thus, we now have electronic banking channels, modern banking systems, and other technological tools to make banking easier and more convenient for you.

For your trust and confidence through the years - THANK YOU. Now and for always, we remain committed to keep you in good hands. For we know that together, we have the strength to move forward to a brighter future.



You're in good hands with METROBANK

Over 800 domestic and international branches, offices and subsidiaries
Head Office. Metrobank Plaza, Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave., Makati City; Web Page: www.metrobank.com.ph
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Deposits insured up to ₱100,000.00 per depositor.

A proud member of BancNet

College Level

OWN are (from left) Quena N. Lee-Chua, Jaime An Lim and Sonia Daquila

Giving Math a 'friendly face'

PERCEPTION about Math as a difficult subject to grasp and should be evaded by non-geeks has been eroding bit by bit—thanks to the efforts of Quena N. Lee-Chua, associate professor, Math Department at the Ateneo de Manila University.

She made Math "edible" to the common student and the ordinary man through her efforts to promote the subject not only in the school where she teaches, but in other channels as well. She writes Math and Science articles for the Philippine Daily Inquirer (she started the Eureka column at the Sunday Inquirer Magazine in 1991 and now she contributes a column for the Saturday edition of the newspaper). She also writes a weekly online column "Mind Games" for Inquirer-GMA 7 Interactive (www.inq7.net). .

Teaching for only 13 years now, Chua is already a multi-awarded educator, having received 12 professional, literary, and service awards here and abroad.

She has also delivered more than 300 talks to educators, parents, students and those in the business and government sectors. She authored 10 books on Math and Science and also helped in the preparation of curriculum in Ateneo.

Chua's mission to make Math and Science important in people's daily lives isn't only confined to talks and the print media. She also hosts the first local Math show on TV "Fun with Math" shown on PTV-4. "Knowledge should not be limited to a select few. I am happy to be teaching beyond the confines of my classroom, and to have reached a wide audience for my 'lessons'." She helped Roselle Ambubuyog, the visually impaired who graduated at the top of her class in Ateneo. Like her, Roselle got a BS Math degree.

"There are no shortcuts in Math. I guide my students. Hopefully, they'll learn to appreciate the austere beauty of Math—not just with the mind, but also with the heart."

Hers is not a boring class

A STUDENT of Sonia Daquila, dean and political science professor at the University of Negros Occidental in Bacolod, once raised a question about the nature of the law of compensation.

The class was discussing Ancient Medieval Political Theories. Daquila, noticing that the student was only more than four feet in height, responded: "Look at yourself. You are petite but you have a well-modulated voice. You have good looks too that command attention. You are an example of the law of compensation." Students always look forward to the classes conducted by Daquila. She's full of wit and she makes her classes lively with her sense of humor.

Daquila wanted to be a writer. However, fate has led her to the most noble profession, teaching. "Becoming a teacher was incidental to me. I did not choose to be one. It just came naturally."

Poverty constrained her from pursuing a writing degree, which was offered in big universities in Manila. She had to stay in Bacolod and instead take a political science degree at the UNO-Recoletos while working as a clerk in the school.

"Deprivation and hardship developed in me an indomitable spirit, the drive to persevere in difficult situations and the capacity to transform difficulties to opportunities."

Such perseverance Daquila has. She graduated Magna Cum Laude in college. She also took Bachelor of Laws at UNO Recoletos and subsequently pursued a master's degree in Development Education at the University of Sto. Tomas. She's now a Doctor in Political Science, which she finished as Summa Cum Laude in UST.

Daquila has written and produced instructional materials endorsed by CHED Region VI for use in all colleges and universities in Western Visayas. Politics and Governance with Philippine Constitution and Seeds of Revolution are the titles of Daquila's works. She also prepared "Rizal: Mandated and Legislated Course", which is a CHED commissioned teachers' guide in teaching Rizal course.

"The greatest challenge I faced is standing differently from what is 'popularly or commonly accepted.' The subject of Rizal, for instance, is usually taken as trite, flat and boring. Writing books, lecturing the same to fellow educators and students in the philosophical, psychological, historical, social, political and ideological contexts of the course changed this perception."

Daquila has been a resource speaker in a number of training programs in Region IV. She is also active in the community and writes a column ("Seeds and Silts") for Sun Star. She has found teaching a pleasant task and the students her source of fulfillment.

The art of nurturing and guiding

JAIME An Lim, who teaches creative writing and the short story at the Mindanao State University-Iligan Institute of Technology, said his being a teacher is a "tribute to the legacy" of his former teachers.

This legacy is now being passed on by An Lim to others as well not only through his teaching inside the confines of the college, but also through a writers' workshop he initiated in Mindanao. The Annual Iligan National Writers' Workshop has been running for 10 years and has taught skills to young aspiring writers from the area.

"As a literature teacher, I would like to think that I'm contributing something meaningful to these young writers who will one day write another chapter in the literary history of our country."

An Lim has been teaching literature for 20 years and took his post graduate courses abroad after taking his Master's in Creative Writing at the Siliman University. He holds a Ph. D in Comparative Literature from Indiana University.

He has won many awards for his poetry, fiction and essays in national literary competitions: Focus, Free Press, Panorama, Homelife, and Palanca. While studying in the United States, he also won several coveted awards, including the Academy of American Poets Prize, the Tutungi Prize, the Ellis Literary Award, and 2nd Prize in the Asian Student Essay Contest.

An Lim's works in poetry and fiction are widely anthologized. These are included in Isagani R. Cruz's "The Best Philippine Short Stories of the Twentieth Century" (2000) and in Gemino H. Abad's "A Habit of Shores: Filipino Poetry and Verse from English, the 60's to the 90's (1999)". He has authored and co-edited a dozen books, including "Literature and Politics: The Colonial Experience in Nine Philippine Novels" (New Day, 1995, 1996), "Trios/Hedonicus" (UP Press, 1998). Two of his books, "Trios" and "Dreamers of the Loom", were nom-

COLLEGE/ B10

Metrobank@41

ELEMENTARY LEVEL

MA. LUISA D. GIBRALTAR
Igcocolo Elementary School
Guimbal, Iloilo

LOURMA I. POCULAN
Rizal Central School
Rizal, Zamboanga del Norte

MARILOU T. YOGYOG
Lagawe Central School
Lagawe, Ifugao

SALVACION R. CALABUCAL
Hen. Pio del Pilar Elementary School
Makati City

LILIA G. RAMOS
SPED-Integrated School for Exceptional Children
Iloilo City

Metrobank gives a big hand
to its partners in education.

The Outstanding Teachers of 2003.

Through their dedication and hard work, our nation's youth are more equipped with the knowledge to conquer the future. Sharing the same vision, Metrobank is one with these honorable educators in their endeavors to build a strong foundation for a brighter tomorrow.

HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL

RENATO N. CARVAJAL
Ateneo de Manila High School
Quezon City

BOARD OF JUDGES

Chairman
HON. RAMON B. MAGSAYSAY, JR.
Senator, Senate of the Philippines

Co-Chairman
HON. EDILBERTO C. DE JESUS
Secretary, Department of Education

Members
HON. ADOLFO S. AZCUNA
Associate Justice, Supreme Court of the Philippines

HON. FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO
Congressman, First District of Sorsogon

HON. MA. LOURDES C. FERNANDO
Mayor, Marikina City

MR. MIGUEL G. BELMONTE
President and CEO, The Philippine Star

FR. WILLIAM H. KREUTZ , S.J.
President, Ateneo de Zamboanga University

EVELYN M. SOROLLA, PhD
Iloilo National High School
Iloilo City

SAMUEL R. SOLIVEN, PhD
Saint Mary's University
Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya

DAHLIA F. FABILLAR
Alubijid National Comprehensive High School
Alubijid, Misamis Oriental

COLLEGE LEVEL

QUEENA N. LEE-CHUA, PhD
Ateneo de Manila University
Quezon City

JAIME L. AN LIM, PhD
MSU-Iligan Institute of Technology
Iligan City

SONIA S. DAQUILA, PhD
University of Negros Occidental-Recoletos
Bacolod City

You are made to excel!
METROBANK FOUNDATION, INC.

15th Floor Metrobank Plaza, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City
Web Page: www.mbfoundation.com.ph; E-mail: foundation@metrobank.com.ph

Member: League of Corporate Foundations, Inc.

Elementary Level

From page B7

Grade VI teacher at Rizal Central School in Rizal, Zamboanga del Norte.

Coming from what she considers a remote area with a population of only 6,000, Poculan who teaches English and trains budding writers, is now 21 years in the profession, spent at that Rizal school.

She has attended lots of trainings foremost of which is the Program in Basic Education (Probe) In-Service Training at Queensland University in Australia for two months in 1998. Since then, she has been sharing the knowledge she gained from that training with all the teachers in her district. She conducts regular workshops with teachers from the central and satellite schools as a Probe In-Service facilitator.

As an elementary school teacher, Poculan believes she has the biggest influence in the life of a child. Through the teacher, she says, the child builds his foundation as he takes his first step into the world of formal education. This is so true, according to her, in the remote barangays and towns where pre-schools are not available.

"We have a very big responsibility on our shoulders. Our duty is not only to teach the child to read, write and count but also to develop him physically, emotionally, socially and spiritually. We should also be able to prepare the child for the complexities of life in the future," she says.

She says her being chosen as one of the outstanding teachers makes not only her family proud, but also her school and community as well. It has also become an inspiration to others, especially her co-teachers because the award just means that wherever you are, as long as you're doing a great job, time will come that your efforts will be amply recognized. Her winning, she says, puts her small remote town of Rizal in the map where one of the Philippines' best can come from.

High-School Level

From page B8

out the talents of the youth.

Teaching for 22 years now, her passion for the profession is not surprising. She has always wanted to become a teacher. "Teaching is not only imparting knowledge to the young," she said, "but also helping them realize their potentials, talents, and capabilities.

Described by her principal, Riza Amaguin, as "a versatile teacher, an effective educational leader, and active community member," Dr. Sorolla is a product of the Study Now Pay Later Program.

Aside from this award, she was recently recognized by the Department of Education as one of the Ten Outstanding Teachers in the Division of Iloilo.

Dr. Sorolla's concept of an ideal teacher is "Someone who can share her time with a child. Someone who can touch and influence the growing minds of the learners and provide them with a firm foundation for lifelong learning."

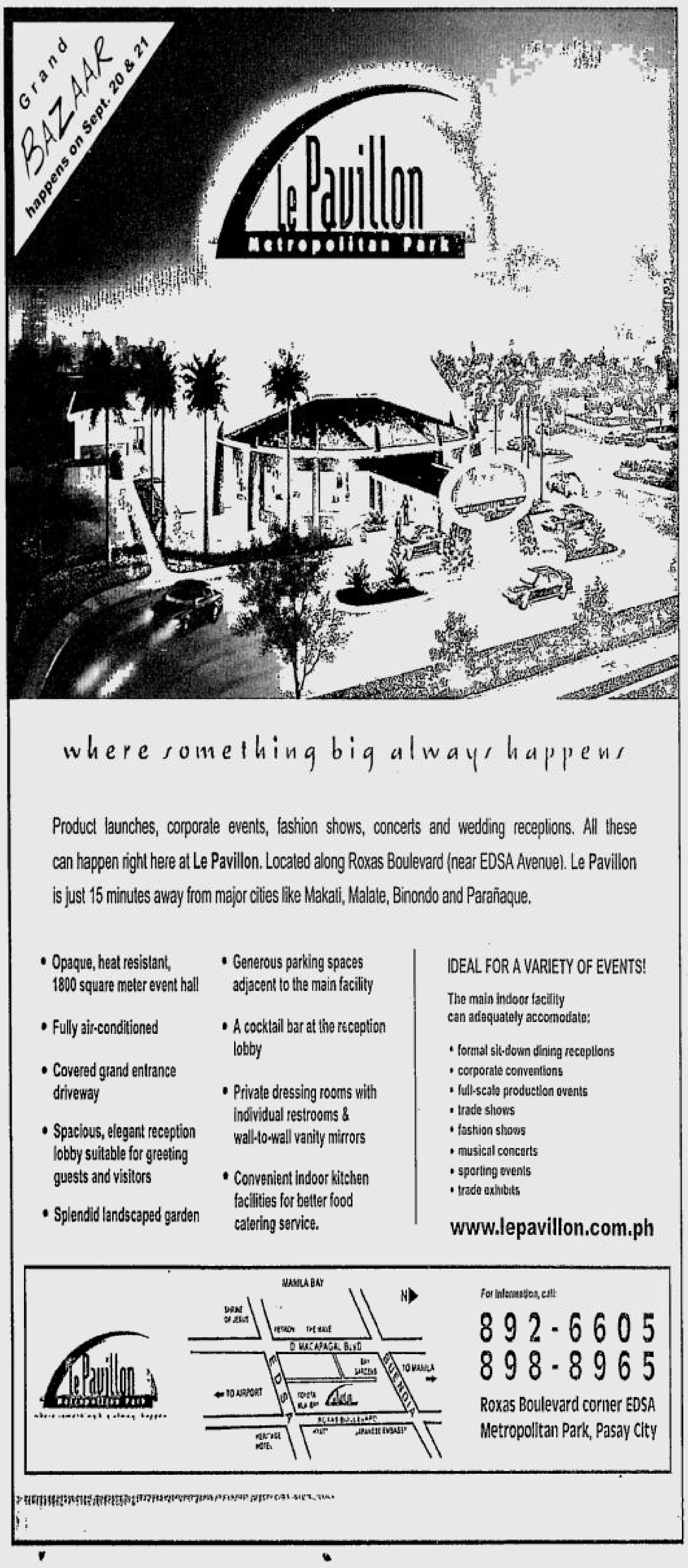
Amaguin also sees her as "A person who portrays the modern educator whose career is nothing less than a missionary pursuit."

College Level

From page B9

inated for Manila Critics Circle Awards.

"Real teaching, for me, is the art of nurturing and guiding. It is knowing that at the heart of every teaching-learning encounter stands a young child or person waiting to be reborn into a better human being."



where something big always happens

Product launches, corporate events, fashion shows, concerts and wedding receptions. All these can happen right here at **Le Pavillon**. Located along Roxas Boulevard (near EDSA Avenue). Le Pavillon is just 15 minutes away from major cities like Makati, Malate, Binondo and Parañaque.

- Opaque, heat resistant, 1800 square meter event hall
- Fully air-conditioned
- Covered grand entrance driveway
- Spacious, elegant reception lobby suitable for greeting guests and visitors
- Splendid landscaped garden
- Generous parking spaces adjacent to the main facility
- A cocktail bar at the reception lobby
- Private dressing rooms with individual restrooms & wall-to-wall vanity mirrors
- Convenient indoor kitchen facilities for better food catering service.

IDEAL FOR A VARIETY OF EVENTS!

The main indoor facility can adequately accomodate:

- formal sit-down dining receptions
- corporate conventions
- full-scale production events
- trade shows
- fashion shows
- musical concerts
- sporting events
- trade exhibits

www.lepavillon.com.ph

For information, call:

892-6605
898-8965

Roxas Boulevard corner EDSA
Metropolitan Park, Pasay City

Golf architect graces Greenfield Estates event

GOLFERS driven by an ardent passion for golf or the simple pleasure of playing the game will gather on Sept. 11 to toast every golfer's dream-the country's only true golf community Ayala Greenfield Estates. Legendary golf course designer Robert Trent Jones Jr., master golf architect, will clink glasses with golf enthusiasts and business executives during the golf-themed cocktails to be held at the Quezon Ballroom of the Makati Shangri-La Hotel.

Robert Trent Jones Jr., architect of the all-weather championship of golf course of Ayala Greenfield Estates, will talk about the sport that he loves best and his vision for Ayala Greenfield Estates golf course. Guests can experience a virtual tour of the 18-hole golf course via computer terminals that will be installed in the ballroom and through a photo exhibit narrating 18 reasons to love golf. After the cocktails, golf aficionados will be treated to a book-signing session by Bobby Jones for his work "Golf by Design".

Two of the country's most prestigious real estate companies-Ayala Land Inc. and Greenfield Development Corp.-went into a partnership to develop a 300-hectare residential-recreational paradise in Calamba, Laguna. Ayala Greenfield Estates is considered the country's only true golf community because unlike other developments, residents are entitled to own a golf share for every lot owned.

There are no golf widows or orphans here, while the head of the home is out in the greens, his family will have lots of recreational opportunities at the Ayala Greenfield Estates Leisure Club-an infinity swimming pool, a game room, a spa and wellness center, multi-sports facilities, a kiddie playground, a Locsin-designed clubhouse and other first-rate facilities.

Construction of the Ayala Greenfield Estates championship golf course has shifted into high gear, and is expected for completion by 2004.

Buyers who reserve lots during the Sept. 11 event and book within 30 days from reservation will receive a special gift of their choice: a Tag Heuer sports watch (the timepiece endorsed by Tiger Woods), a driver and putter by Taylormade, or a set of Bose speakers. Reservations made at the cocktails are entitled to a free autographed "Golf by Design" book by Robert Trent Jones Jr.

For more details, call Giso Sulit at 841-5518 or Lala Nadal at 759-4225.

Allure: The Filipino touch backed by Italian science

ENTER a world of yesterday today, where sophistication swirls and beauty is regarded deeper than the skin. Guided by the vision of providing an honest, transparent and open approach to the skin care business, Emely So Chua, trained in the skin and body care line by two of the leading Italian cosmetic companies-Naturlia Sentesi and Dr. Lauranne Institute (respected as one of the oldest cosmetic clinics in Italy)-corroborated and established the future of healthier, more beautiful, and younger skin in Manila known as Allure.

Allure Skin & Body Care, located at Banawe corner Sta. Catalina Streets in Quezon City (with telephone number 742-8765), caters to the standard of the best Italian Spa and other quality skin products to make skin vibrant and glowing even from within. All the standard quality features you expect and more, all that pampers the body are offered for you to get passionate about your skin and make you through your busiest day looking as fresh as when you left home.

Adhering to the strict protocol required by the Dr. Lauranne Institute, Allure has been in constant communication with the Institute regarding all services rendered, and products are sealed in their individual boxes with expiration dates clearly printed on the package. All services adhere to the stringent standards of its Italian partners.

A healthier, younger-looking skin from within-Allure gives the simple solution to simple skin problems.

First coffee-table book on Boracay now available

THE FIRST-ever coffee-table book on the island paradise of Boracay is now available. A 220-page landmark hardbound book on the world's best tropical beach, "The Boracay Lifestyle" features a collection of amazing photographs and interesting stories of the famous island's glamorous past, interesting people, unique cuisine, vibrant fashion and architecture, arts and crafts, and pulsating nightlife.

Publisher Edd Fuentes has enlisted some of the country's most respected writers and editors to present the many facets of Boracay life. Among the writers are Maurice Arcache, Stella Arnaldo, Vladimir Bunoan, Tina Cabanayan, Lito Ocampo Cruz, Tanya Lara, Lester Ledesma, Francine Medina, and Leah Puyat.

The book features stunning photographs of the island as taken by some of the Philippines' finest lensmen and photojournalists, including Alex Van Hagen, Lester Ledesma, George Tapan, Nestor Santiago, Erwin Lim, as well as the finalists of the Boracay Lifestyle photo contest.

"The Boracay Lifestyle" also serves as a guide to the island, with its listing of resorts, restaurants, shops and business establishments that make Boracay one of the most vibrant vacation spots in the world.

Printed by Hong Kong's Rainbow Graphics, "The Boracay Lifestyle" was published by Fuentes Publicity Network Inc in cooperation with Fairways and Bluewaters and The Sun Village Boracay Resorts.

"The Boracay Lifestyle" is available at Fuentes Publicity Network Inc, Unit 6-D Cypress Garden Condominium, 112 VA Rufino Street (formerly Herrera), Legaspi Village, Makati. For more information, call 893-9355, 816-3109, 892-6184, fax 812-4797, or e-mail Fuentes@pacific.net.ph. Special discounts will be given for bulk orders.

'KAMI NAMAN' GOES TO FERNWOOD GARDENS

Sharing a light moment in between breaks, 'Kami Naman' children hosts (from left, Myka, Paula, Gio, Cheska and Kevin) with commercial and TV director Rico Samarista are in a playful mood on location at the Fernwood Gardens in Quezon City. Telecast every Saturday mornings from 10:30 to 11 on ABC Channel 5, 'Kami Naman' is the network's latest educatrional TV production from Cirenna Corporate Medium featuring first-timers all in front of the TV cameras. In 'Kami Naman', the children prove that 'what grownups can do, children can sometimes do better.'

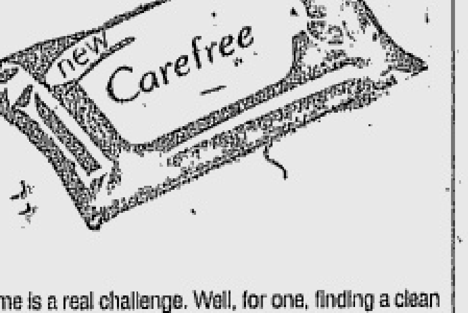
SEATTLE'S BEST COFFEE

AM SPECIALS AT SEATTLE'S BEST

WHAT'S a better way to start your day than taking in the sweet smell of freshly roasted premium coffee? Breakfast will never be the same with the latest morning specials offered by Seattle's Best Coffee. A perfect choice for people on the go, choose from four delicious choices to go with your cup of java. Want a filling breakfast? Then choose either the ham and cheese on wheat or tuna and egg on wheat and save as much as P40. There's a savings of P25 to be had for the butter croissant with jam special, a classic for people who want it simple. Other selections include your choice of *pan de sal* or ham and cheese croissant. All specials come with your choice of a tall cappuccino or latte. With the perfect mix of great coffee and cozy atmosphere, mornings just got better at Seattle's Best, and with its newest branch at Tomas Morato.

ProductFILES

Freshly washed feeling in a wipe



ADMIT it, girls! We're OC when it comes to intimate hygiene. It's almost our second nature. Being clean helps promote well being and confidence in being a woman. It's part of our daily lives in order to feel comfortable and confident with the people around us.

But keeping ourselves that way outside the home is a real challenge. Well, for one, finding a clean bathroom and water poses a problem-it's not always readily available and hygienic to use. Next, using a feminine wash out-of-home is virtually impossible, especially when you're dressed up in work clothes. Besides, who has the time to spend locked up inside the bathroom? Then there's tissue that's rough when dry and not durable at all when wet. It might even leave some fibers and does not provide that completely clean feeling after wiping.

But thank God for new Carefree Refreshing Feminine Wipes. Intimate hygiene becomes easy and hassle-free wherever, whenever, especially during that "eeky" period. Carefree Refreshing Feminine Wipes contain clinically proven mild and safe ingredients with natural extracts of witch hazel and chamomile, for that gentle and thorough clean. And you know what else? Unlike tissue, these pre-moistened cloth wipes are made of much softer, stronger and more durable fabric-like material, giving us a totally new experience outside home.

So grab a pack of Carefree Refreshing Feminine Wipes now for a freshly washed clean feeling anytime, anywhere. It is now available in leading supermarkets and drugstores in key cities nationwide.

BUSINESS Friday
E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

DIRECT MARKETING ROUTE

Make sure envelope will be opened

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

CONSUMERS are bombarded daily with different forms of advertising from the moment they wake up in the morning, to just before they sleep at night. A study showed that consumers are exposed to about 3,000 different forms of ads each day.

This kind of general advertising explains the growth of some sort of a counter culture called direct marketing—communication directed at only a select group of consumers with its own tastes and preferences.

Among the most popular forms of direct advertising are direct mail and text messaging to a select group of people.

With all the advertising going around, firms are looking for something more personal, one with that special push that could influence a consumer to put his hand in his pocket and buy a product or a service.

Paul Gotham, regional director for Southeast Asia of Rapp Collins-Integrated Relationship Marketing, said during the recently concluded Direct Marketing Forum, that marketing efforts these days can no longer be divided into either above the line (traditional advertising) or below the line (events and promotional activities).

"Forget about the line. Customers will never view brands differently based on which medium they receive the message. What is important is to touch them where they are," Gotham stressed.

He added that there has been a fundamental shift in the way marketing campaigns are drafted over the past few years. Where before, the customers were thought of last in developing the campaign, now they have to be first.

"What can we do for the customers is the question to be considered. Don't plan from the inside out, but from the outside in. Often we start with our own internal corporate objectives and plan campaigns to fit these. Not anymore," he said.

Gotham also suggested that companies think of customers as people with their individual tastes and preferences and not just as a homogenous market.

"They are individuals with distinct tastes and the challenge is to tap their preferences. There are tools such as segmentation schemes. The objective is to encourage a desired response and some change in behavior," he said.

Direct marketing, he said, is more effective at changing behavior because customized communication allows the customer to "experience" the brand in a way that traditional print, radio and television advertising could not.

He said this explained why the share of traditional media on average is down to 12 percent from 42 percent 20 years ago.

"Use communication as a vehicle to create highly involving experience that drive consumer response," Gotham said. He said this would involve a better understanding of customer behavior through data analysis and even psychology.

Gotham, thus, said that marketing companies must change their approach to marketing so that it would be multi-disciplinary in approach. These teams should now include experts in different fields such as brand research, marketing team, database experts and even psychologists.

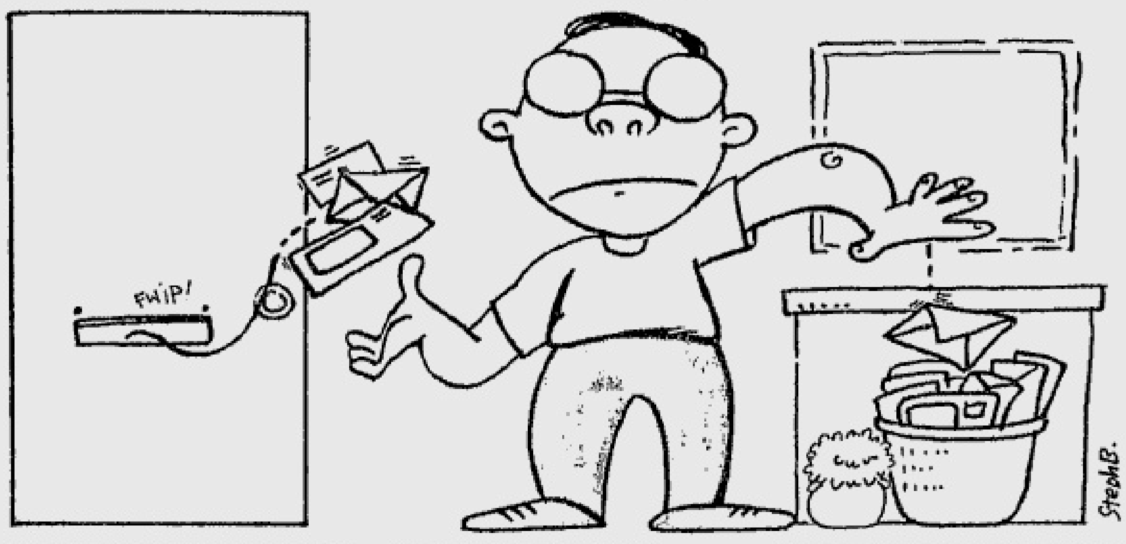
To come up with effective direct mail, Shane Weaver, creative director of OgilvyInteractive, Asia Pacific, said the key is to induce the target customer to open the envelope and read through the mail and not just take a look at it and immediately throw it in the wastebasket.

"You should write within the experience of the receiver, it is about getting into the mind of the recipient. It should be that personal. That is the secret of direct mail," Weaver said.

He said personally signing the direct mail or writing a letter directly addressed to the recipient is a particularly effective tool in getting a person's attention.

Weaver said a company should not make the mistake of putting all the information on the envelope itself.

"The purpose of the envelope is to be opened to lead them through the message which is inside the envelope. An envelope that says everything will not do anything," he said.



Taxing imported vehicles

By Ma. Fides A. Balili
SGV & Co.

TAX-FILES

THE LAST few years have seen imported motor vehicles enter the Philippines through the Subic Special Economic and Freeport Zone (SSEFZ), as well through other legislated freeport zones, to be sold at a public auction. These vehicles were brought in and consigned to the auctioneer who subsequently sells them in public auctions; in addition, there have also been incidents when the imports are made by individuals who avail of the services of the auctioneer by including their individual vehicles in the lots being auctioned.

While the success of these public-auction type transactions has continued to attract bidders, the government did not find it easy to impose and collect the proper amount of taxes on the importation and sale of these motor vehicles.

For several years, the price actually fetched at the auction was taken as the dutiable/taxable value of the vehicles. The winning bidders themselves pay the duties and taxes before the release of the goods from the zone.

However, the practice spawned complaints from the winning bidders because of the delay or rather "foot dragging" attendant to the release of the vehicles. The customs officials at these zones refused to automatically accept the bid price as the basis for the computation of the taxes and duties due.

Thus, in 1999, the Bureau of Customs (BOC) revised the scheme in the payment of taxes incident to the importation of motor vehicles. To facilitate the release of the vehicles from the BOC and the registration of their transfer to the winning bidders, the BIR required the auctioneer to first pay the duties and taxes on the vehicles prior to their release for auction, thus preventing the further intervention of customs officials after the sale of vehicles.

The motor vehicles are thus registered with the Land Transportation Office (LTO) in the names of the auctioneers before the auction. However, the question that this practice in turn triggered, was what about the taxes on the sale of the vehicles by the auctioneer?

To prescribe/clarify uniform guidelines on the taxation of imported vehicles through the freeport zones, the BIR issued Revenue Memorandum Circular (RMC) Nos. 31-2003 and 32-2003, dated June 3 and 5, 2003, respectively.

Among others, RMCs 31-2003 and 32-2003 provide:

As a general rule that motor vehicles that are imported into the freeport zones for exclusive use within the territory are exempt from customs duties, taxes and other charges, provided the importer-consignee is a registered enterprise within the freeport zone.

However, should these motor vehicles be brought out into the customs territory without returning to the freeport zones, the customs duties, taxes and other charges shall be paid to the BOC before release from its custody.

In case a motor vehicle is imported for public auction within the freeport zones, the consignee-auctioneer must pay the value-added tax (VAT) and excise tax to the BOC before the registration under its name with the LTO and/or conduct of the public auction.

To compute the VAT and excise tax, the basis is the transaction value used by the BOC in determining the tariff and customs duties and shall be paid before the release of the motor vehicles from customs custody.

If the winning bidder at the public auction in the freeport zone will bring the motor vehicle out of the zone and into the customs territory, the winning bidder will be deemed to be the importer and shall be liable for the VAT and excise tax based on the winning bid price.

In cases where the consignee-auctioneer has already paid the VAT and excise tax before the registration with LTO and the conduct of the public auction, the VAT and excise tax that will be paid by the winning bidder will be based on the difference between the winning bid price and the value used by the consignee-auctioneer in payment of such taxes.

However, for excise tax purposes, in case the winning bid price is lower than the total costs to import, recondition or rehabilitate the motor vehicles, and other administrative and selling expenses, the basis for the computation of the excise tax shall be the total costs plus 10 percent.

The additional VAT and excise tax shall be paid to the BIR where it is registered before the auctioned vehicles are registered with the LTO.

Finally, imported motor vehicles that qualify as automobiles cannot be released from the BOC without an authority to release imported goods secured from the BIR. For motor vehicles imported through the SSEFZ, for example, the authority shall be secured from the regional director, Revenue Region No. 4, San Fernando, Pampanga, through the revenue district officer No. 19, SBMA, before the VAT and excise tax, if any, is paid, and the automobile is released from the BOC.

For all motor vehicles imported through other freeport zones, the authority shall be secured from the LT assistance division of the large taxpayers service, national office.

Bread firm targets kiddie market

By Michelle V. Remo

MARKETING STRATEGY

THE NEED to continually undertake innovations and create new products for the changing demands of the market may already sound like a cliché.

But knowing the principle by heart is still definitely one of the best ways to grow a business.

Heeding the common business rule of dynamism and change, Gardenia Bakeries Philippines Inc. has diversified from producing loaf breads to the flavored breads market.

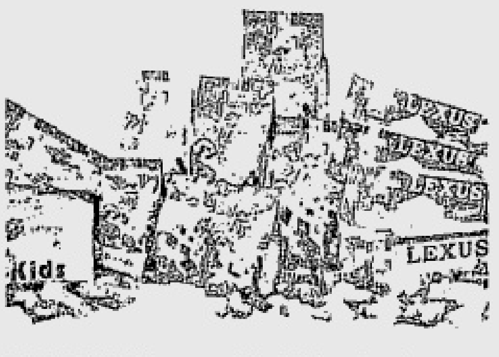
Gardenia recently introduced its new product called the "Gardenia Filled Buns."

The introduction of the filled buns, which come in chocolate, strawberry, ube and pandan, signals Gardenia's move to inch to another target market.

By adding the flavored buns to Gardenia's product list, the company is now trying to widen the consumers' perspective of Gardenia, which has always been known as a maker of the loaf bread.

Now, the company wants the name "Gardenia" to be associated with a diverse food product line.

Gardenia wants to get a chunk of the children's snacks market with the filled buns. Gardenia general manager Simplicio Umali Jr. says the filled buns are tailor fit for schoolchildren's daily "baon."



GARDENIA ties up with a Malaysian firm to beef up its foothold in the snacks segment.

"The market is currently dominated by manufacturing giants. With our entry, we hope Gardenia will be able to get a significant share of the segment. We decided to come up with the filled buns because we know there are great revenue opportunities from children's snacks, and we expect the new product to be a big boost to business," he says.

While producing loaf bread alone has already made Gardenia one of the fastest growing bread manufacturers in the country, the company believes it cannot sit on its laurels and watch competitors struggle to capture their share of the market.

Thus, not only has Gardenia come up with the new filled buns, it has also entered into a partnership with Munchy Food Industries of Malaysia to further strengthen its foothold of the snacks segment.

With the venture, Gardenia aims to develop its brand name recall from merely being a loaf bread maker to packaged snacks distributor as well.

Munchy is one of the leading wafer and biscuit manufacturers in Malaysia. It is the producer of various wafer and biscuit snacks like Lexus Calcium Cracker, Muzic Wafer Cubes and Rice Kids.

Under the tie-up, Gardenia will distribute Munchy's products in the Philippines. "Marketing and distribution of Munchy products are initially focused on Metro Manila and surrounding provinces. Later this year, they will reach Visayas and Mindanao through the help of sub-distributors," says Umali.

Since its full-year operations in 1998, the company claims it has consistently posted revenue growths and has already exceeded the P500-million sales mark in its fifth year of operation last year.

From a 10-percent sales growth in 1999, the company says it registered a 23-percent growth in 2000, 35 percent in 2001 and 65 percent in 2002. The company also reported that for the first half of this year alone, Gardenia has already grown 40 percent from the same period last year.

Umali says adherence to quality helped boost sales.

Gardenia says the company sticks to using the most advanced state-of-the-art automated and controlled bread manufacturing facilities. The company's keen observance of quality, says Umali, is the reason it gained popularity among Filipino consumers.

"This, coupled with Gardenia's innovative marketing approaches, helped the company maintain its growth momentum and achieve market leadership in the loaf bread segment," says Umali.

Lawmen's wives help entrepreneurs

By Amy R. Remo

ONE does not have to travel far just to taste authentic Ilocano bagnet or buy a hand-woven malong from Lanao del Sur.

A livelihood and trade fair called "Kabuhayan 2003" was held at the Megamall trade hall to showcase products from the different congressional districts of the country. More than 30 entrepreneurs participated.

The fair was sponsored by the Congressional Spouses Foundation Inc. (CSFI).

"We sponsor this annual trade fair to spur the entrepreneurial spirit of the Filipinos," said Gina de Venecia, CSFI president, in a statement.

Among the food products on sale were Lingayen *bagoong* and boneless bangus; Baguio's strawberry jam and peanut brittle; Eastern Samar's seaweeds and pickles; Camarines Norte's organic rice; and Capiz lobsters and scallops.

Handicrafts and other products included Bulacan's gold, pearls and colored stones; Nueva Vizcaya's wood furniture; Catanduanes' abaca handicrafts; and Rizal's Angono paintings.

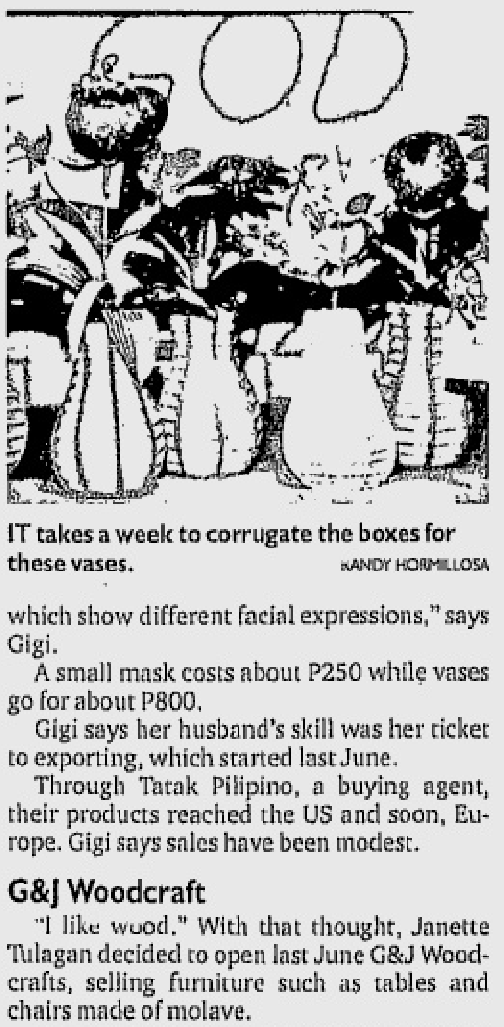
The fair provided exposure to new businesses.

Alsong Potteries

From a hobby to a profitable business, Alsong Potteries has gone a long way since it started in December 2000.

Owned by husband and wife GP and Gigi Perez, Alsong Potteries sells decorative masks and sculptures, vases and totems made of clay and wood. They also restore old furniture.

The items they sell are mostly sculpted by GP, whose hobby is pottery.



IT takes a week to corrugate the boxes for these vases. RANDY HORMILLOSA

"His specialty is face sculpture or masks, which show different facial expressions," says Gigi.

A small mask costs about P250 while vases go for about P800.

Gigi says her husband's skill was her ticket to exporting, which started last June.

Through Tatak Pilipino, a buying agent, their products reached the US and soon, Europe. Gigi says sales have been modest.

G&J Woodcraft

"I like wood." With that thought, Janette Tulagan decided to open last June G&J Woodcrafts, selling furniture such as tables and chairs made of molave.

G&J Woodcrafts, based in Quezon, engages in buy and sell.

"We would buy scrap molave wood from those living near the river and sometimes ask them to re-fashion them into tables and chairs then sell them for a price," says Tulagan.

Tulagan decided to use molave because of its abundance and lower price in Quezon and the strength of the wood.

Molave, she says, gets sturdier in time, even if it gets wet.

Tulagan says G&J Woodcrafts received inquiries and orders during their trade fair where most of their best pieces had been bought.

JRC Roxas Marine Corp.

A family business of more than 20 years, JRC Roxas sells fresh lobsters, scallops, crabs and milkfish.

JRC is based in Roxas City, Capiz. It also sells dried fish and bottled baby oysters.

According to Chad del Rosario, chief operating officer of JRC, his father started with a fish pond culturing crabs and milkfish. The pond send Chad and his two siblings through school. The three and their spouses help in the business.

Del Rosario says they supply wet markets in the Visayas and Manila.

Decore

Corazon Co saw the potential in her second-year high school child's project.

Decore, which started in December 2002, sells vases, tissue holders, file folders and decorations made of corrugated cardboard.

This home-based business has become a big family project for them, according to Co.

"It's difficult because we have to manually 'corrugate' the card boards but with a little patience and diligence, we managed to pull it off," relates Co. "It sometimes takes us a week to finish a big vase."

So far, Co says their business is faring well. The trade fair was a big exposure for them.

Marketing to rich Josés (from José Velardes to José Pidals)

(First of three)

MARKETING RX

Dr. Ned Roberto & Ardy Roberto

THANKS for your emails. Sorry we skipped last week's column. The Marketing RX (MRx) tandem were both busy at the Direct Marketing Forum and we missed our deadline. Anyway, there were still many questions about marketing to the poor. But we've decided to give that topic a rest for a while (MRx will answer a few more of them in future columns though) and move on to answer the pressing and timely questions, this time, related to marketing to the rich. The common questions in our readers' minds are:

"It seems to me that entrepreneurs and businesses are also making big money marketing to the rich as well. How do you market to the rich? How big is the market in the Philippines for big ticket items and luxury goods? What products should I sell to the rich?"

Marketing practitioners who know their SECs are aware that the upscale Class AB consumers make up less than 10 percent of the country's total population. In fact, if we are to believe the available statistics, the rich are no more than 1.2 percent of total Philippine household population and 5 percent of Metro Manila's. (That's according to research by AC Nielsen and Taylor Nelson Sofres.) To learn more about the SocioEconomic Classification of consumers in the Philippines—and to impress your boss—get a copy of Dr. Ned's book, "Marketer's Guide to SEC Classification of Consumers in the Philippines" at any National Bookstore branch.)

That means, in Metro Manila alone, given a population of 10 million, there are about 500,000 class AB consumers. A businessman might be tempted to snob this relatively small number and indeed follow MRx's previous advice and concentrate on marketing to the *masa*. (Especially if you consider that up to one milion people visit SM Megamall alone on a typical midnight madness sale day.)

Being relatively small in number, this does not mean, as many would believe, that they are a homogenous segment?

Segmenting the rich Pinoy market

In the Philippines, there are at least two classes of rich people. There are the established rich and the "nouveau riche." Then, behaviorally speaking, there are two classes of "nouveau riche," the gross noveau riche and the smart nouveau riche.

To know how to market or what to market to the rich, let us focus first on identifying and understanding the sub-segment of the rich.

The Establishment Rich (think born rich, like the Lopezes, Ayalas, Sorianos). The Gross Nouveau Riche(GNR- think like Jose Velarde or Jose Pidal) and the Smart Nouveau Riche (SNR- think CEO of a multinational company or a successful entrepreneur).

In the next few columns, MRx will look at where these three classes differ and in doing so try to understand the lifestyles, buying habits, preferences and self- concepts of this rich market segment and how all these provide us with the consumer insight for effectively marketing to them.

Why target the rich segment?

Sure, we know we said that if you wanted to get rich that you should market to the *masa*—or the poor, downscale DE market. We've already shown you the marketing principles and some examples to illustrate how that could work for you. But that doesn't mean that you should ignore the niche-rich market. Because if you come to think of it, who's going to market to the people who get rich marketing to the 70 plus million *masa* consumers?

While the upscale and affluent are a small proportion of our total population (that's less than 10 percent of the Philippines 84.5 million total population, even if you include the marginally rich or upper middle class market striving hard to be among the AB's), many companies still target them for their Primary Target Market (PTM) segment. They may be few in numbers, but for many product categories they are big in peso market size.

We always remind our clients and students about this basic marketing principle: market size is not equal to population size. For many product categories, the upscale segment's frequency of product buying and usage are typically a multiple of the purchase and usage rates true among the middle and downscale classes. In addition, they often buy the higher or highest priced brands in a category.

Market size is precisely the multiplicative product of these three variables: the number of people times buying/usage frequency times price paid. The last two variables are two multipliers that make the upscale class a larger market for a certain products than the mid-scale and the downscale. This is true of a wide range of products such as cosmetics, vitamins, bottled water, ice cream, coffee, confectionery, infant formula, and even deodorant, toilet paper and sanitary napkins. (Did you know that anywhere from 60-70 percent of the *masa* still don't use sanitary napkins? According to research, many of the downscale women use the traditional cloth *pasador.)*

The three types of rich market are also a bigger market for consumer services like beauty parlors, spas, restaurants (just go to Libis or Greenbelt 2 and 3 and see for yourself) doctor and dentist consultations, recreation/entertainment (think the Ayala's new myCinema exclusive theatre in Greenbelt 3 which you can rent for P10,000, P20,000 to have a private screening of a movie of your choice with your friends) and fitness centers (that's why the new chains, Fitness First and Gold's—which invested more than P50M in fitness "hardware" in it's showcase Glorietta branch alone are thriving.)

Sure, the *masa* and broad C market go to beauty parlors and restaurants but the rich frequent them more often, and spend much, much more. The multiplier effect mentioned above makes the AB market a much larger market.

The rich consumers are also not homogenous in their lifestyle, interests, and spending priorities and practices. The three classes of the rich that were identified (i.e. the born or established rich, the gross nouveau riche, and the smart nouveau riche) think, feel, and behave differently.

More on that next week! *(We're out of column space.) Keep your comments and questions coming! Email us at MarketingRX"SaltandLightVentures.com*

Ventures thrive selling goods electronically

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

NEARLY everything is sold on the Internet these days—from specialized dog food to custom-made shirts. Just a few years ago, many made millions from the dot.com boom. And many lost too from the dot.com bust.

But the necessity of the Internet to business these days is a given.

Business Monday recently talked with three firms that have tapped the Internet to further their businesses.

Filgifts.com

Filgifts.com began full operations in 2001 amid the dot-com crash.

"We believed that e-commerce was viable if you had a niche market to serve and you offered value for your customers' money," Filgifts managing partner Gerry Ditching explains in an interview.

Filgifts.com targets overseas contract workers who wanted to send gifts to their families in the Philippines.

"Presently we have a selection of around 1,500 gift items conveniently pre-sorted for easy browsing. All these products are warehoused right at the heart of Metro Manila which enables us to charge lower freight costs.

Filgifts.com targets these overseas Filipinos through portal Yehey.com and ads in the United States as well as in the www.Inq7.net website.

"We recognize that the business has to be sustained over the long term before we can make money. Amazon, for instance, only started to make money after 10 years," Ditching says.

He adds that Filgifts.com has been able to get a lot of orders from OFWs because of the convenience that Filgifts.com offers.

Among the most popular products are goodie boxes during Christmas, toys, and flowers during the Valentine season.

"We are breaking even right now, hopefully by the end of the year or in two years we will start turning in a profit," Ditching says.

As much as 90 percent of its buyers come from overseas, but Ditching says Filgifts hopes to expand the local market this year, especially with the introduction of the Yehey PayPlus facility.

The facility allows the Internet user both here and abroad to use their local ATMs to purchase products online, instead of the usual credit card.

Islandrose.net

The website islandrose.net is an offshoot of a 20-year-old family business of selling flowers. The Philippine Cut Flower Corp. that started operations in 1983 is one of the single biggest suppliers of flowers in Metro Manila, with top hotels and restaurants among its buyers of European rose varieties.

When Dustin Andaya was asked to join the family business, he handled PCFC's marketing. He also diversified the business to include an online arm in 2001, which is islandrose.net.

DUSTIN Andaya of Island Rose

"Call it my pet project, but it is really an express delivery service and we sell only roses on the Internet," Andaya explains.

Through islandrose.net, people can purchase a bunch of two dozen roses, ready for delivery either in Metro Manila or the provinces.

"Our peak selling time of course is during Valentine's when we sell about 500 packages from the 12th to the 14th. Right now we deliver about four a day," he says.

Andaya stresses that the chances of succeeding or growing a business online is the same as setting up a branch or outlet. The key, he says, is having a solid business model.

Islandrose's package of two dozen roses sells for between $19.95 to $28 depending on the size, variety and assortment of the roses. Payplus customers, on the other hand, who pay in pesos are given special discounts and pay between P900 to P1,200 depending on the variety.

"We are looking to increase our local users by at least 50 percent this year, to do that we have to be more accessible to local buyers," he says.

Andaya hopes that Yehey.com's PayPlus' facility would do just that as the market would be opened to those who only have ATM cards, not credit cards.

Estore-exchange

The estore-exchange is one of the Internet players that survived the dot-com crash, primarily because it was the first in the Philippines to offer local payment system for its online buyers.

It started operations in 1999 as a virtual prepaid card venture at the time when mobile phone use was on the rise.

Estore president JJ Soriano says Filipinos who wanted to buy something from the Internet had to pay abroad using their Visa or Mastercard, but with estore-exchange it forged a tie-up with Citibank allowing local online sales.

It started as a virtual seller of electronic pre-paid cards, which are called e-loads and has since expanded its products to include flowers, magazine subscriptions, accessories, computers, magazine subscriptions and Philippine delicacies.

"We modeled ourselves after a mall, we are not a merchant but a mall operator, so we got e-tenants to put up their systems with us. What we provided was the presence and the payment transaction," he says.

JJ says that with the move toward using ATM cards for online transactions, he expects online business to further expand.

"The credit cards have always been there so it is good for ATMs to also be used through the Yehey PayPlus because it will provide a wider market for the company. The next stage would be to move it to mobile," he explains.

JJ Soriano of Estore-Exchange

How does the Internet generation think, feel?

By Dennis M. Arroyo
Contributor

SUFFICE it to say that the Net-savvy youth are different from their techno-challenged peers. Certainly their culture is a curiosity for their parents. Here then are some insights on the culture of the Net Generation. They are drawn from the book of Don Tapscott, Growing Up Digital: The Rise of the Net Generation.

Fierce independence

They have a strong sense of autonomy. Knowledge is power, and this generation has access to a vast web of knowledge. The streak of independence is reinforced by their role as active information seekers rather than passive receivers.

Not only does this generation enjoy much information—they also create it. In the print media model, a few writers generate and spread their ideas. In community websites, anyone can post his or her opinions.

Openness

Forum sites allow for anonymity, as community members create their own names. This anonymity in turn lets them become more open about their ideas. You can vent your frustrations about some people with no fear of repercussions in the physical world. Candid thoughts can thus fly more freely.

Inclusion

The Net covers the whole planet, so global communities are formed. Check out the e-group section in the Yahoo website. (In an e-group, a message sent by any member reaches all the members.) You can join any discussion forum and share tips on your hobbies, like Star Trek episodes, Japanese cuisine, or Disney movies. The groups are international because anyone can access Yahoo. Comments on "Finding Nemo" can come from Cebu to Caracas to Colombo.

Strong opinions

Because of the glut of information and all that free-wheeling discussion, Net youth tend to form more solid opinions. Their choices are informed. Editorials are simplified into running arguments, to the benefit of forum readers. It is no surprise then that Net generation teens take on positions that one would expect from their seniors.

Innovation

The Internet keeps morphing because it is a breeding ground for innovation. People buy and sell products via a few clicks. Firms easily compare wholesale prices to get the best deals. Teens download music into their computers. Global teams coordinate work as if they were together in the same room. The Net generation is used to the explosion of innovation, so they run their own experiments.

"Currently, software and Web content companies develop children's versions of their products only after they have discovered children are using the original grown-up version," says Tapscott.

Preoccupation with maturity

The Net youth know they are more equipped and techno-savvy then their peers or even their parents. They are more mature than their parents expect them to be, and they want this to be recognized.

"Whenever I call adults, they do not take me seriously," says 14-year old Eric Mandela of New Jersey. "When I am using the computer, no one knows that I am not an adult. Once I make first impressions, then I can tell them I am fourteen. I get much more respect."

Investigation

A mind used to innovation naturally turns to investigation. When a youth knows his way around the Net, he would "look under the hood" rather than accept statements at face value.

For example, video games usually require a player to pass one level before moving on to the next. Youth have learned to hack the programs so as to bypass the needless steps. They experiment with the programs and share the tips.

Immediacy

When you mail a letter, you expect it to reach its destination in a few days. With email, a message orbits the earth in seconds. In your grade school years, you had to wait a week for a book to be available in the library. Today you can surf websites in minutes.

The Net generation is used to quick messages, instant responses. Slow download time tests the patience of kids. The negative side of this is that the culture of immediacy results in much stress.

Sensitivity to corporate interests

The broadcast and print media are controlled by big corporations. In contrast, any person with a website can be a publisher. The Net Generation feels empowered and thus resents being exploited by big business. Spamming (mass e-mailing of advertisements) is loathed. Discussion groups can tell when a member joins to merely peddle his product.

"Heavy-handed promotion is hated... People will only give you their attention if you give them value," says Howard Rheingold, an authority on virtual communities.

Authentication and trust

Netizens must contend with the abuse of communication - outright lying. Because of the anonymity factor, people can send out a lot of false information. Hoaxes and pranks abound in emails alone. Rumors and distortions can be posted on websites. Hence, the Net generation values reliability, credibility. This upholding of truth is the basis for long-term trust.

Comments to <darroyo@philonline.com>

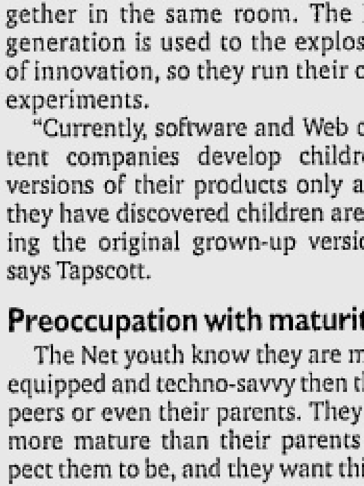
McDonald's taps Justin Timberlake to connect with younger consumers

CHICAGO—McDonald's Corp. said it signed pop star Justin Timberlake for a global advertising campaign it launched on Tuesday, as it seeks to connect with younger customers and head off stiff competition.

Timberlake, formerly of the US band 'N Sync, will sing vocals for some of the English-language spots in the campaign, the world's largest fast-food company said.

Executives for McDonald's, based in Oak Brook, Illinois, declined to provide the cost of the campaign or Timberlake's contract, which includes sponsorship of a 35-country tour by the singer.

"We are spending a great deal," Larry Light, McDonald's chief marketing officer, told reporters on a conference call from Munich, where McDonald's launched the campaign. It is the first global marketing effort in the company's 50-year history.



TIMBERLAKE

The television spots roll out in other countries this month and in the United States on Sept. 29.

Analysts noted that few US brands have successfully carried out worldwide campaigns, due to cultural differences between countries. "Let's see how it works," said Lawrence McNaughton, managing director of brand consultancy CoreBrand LLC.

German agency Heye and Partners, part of Omnicom Group Inc.'s DDB unit, is leading the creative work for the campaign, which is dubbed "I'm lovin' it." It follows McDonald's "Smile" campaign in the United States, which experts said had a lukewarm impact. Recent menu additions like premium salads featuring Newman's Own dressing linked to actor Paul Newman have done more to boost sales, helping the company post significant U.S. second-quarter sales improvement.

In 2002, McDonald's spent about $548.2 million on advertising, according to trade publication Advertising Age.

Reuters

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8973535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

RATES

P245 per column centimeter

P75 per line

(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES

for reservations / cancellations / corrections

Mondays to Saturdays
12:00 noon
Day before publication

Sundays
12:00 noon
every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

RAPID Tx VD-STD
Ex. SWEAT PIMPLES KELOID
ALLERGY WARTS SKIN PEEL
15 Annapolis Greenhills
Call 7276124 - 25 9am-7pm

PERSONAL

ARCHITECTS

DESIGN/RENDER/BUILD
9248455 • 09174339264 MAR

CONSTRUCTION/ DESIGN

★JERRY-DESIGN-HOUSE★
CALL 0916-5250452

WELLHOME VENTURES & DEV.
ATTN: LOT OWNERS
HOUSE CONSTRUCTION
BANK/IN-HOUSE FINANCING
OWNS 3 H' WARES
3241545 3241546 3615551
Binan (049)839-0802
Batangas (043)312-2202

COSMETOLOGY

BEAUTY TALKS
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
SEPT. 20 SAT. 1-5PM
8956031 L2011/8971832

HEALTH/FITNESS

Slim Down Fast 5319960

INSURANCE

LIFE / PENSION 09164280101

MASSAGE

02 3233269 Ask BOJO

Akhin Thai Masg 50% Off Mla 8347357 Cebu 032-2532597

F4 Thai Massage 0919-6755632 Lic.

Mr BODY PHYSIQUE MASSAGE 11A Kamias QC 4350978

H'SOME ATHLETES 8337361

JAMES MALE 24HRS SERVICE 8518650 ; 0920-6274243

MALE 15 PALANAN 7320659

MASS M/F 0919-2714842 ANJO

Meteor Massage 0920-5944521 Lic.

THAI Msge Lic 0919-4743278

4587327 WIND OFF M/F

REFLEXOLOGY

Edward 7289285 09195367404

FEELS GOOD 4127758

H-H-MS MALE 7314018

Wizard Massage 4213197/4227303

TUTORIAL LESSONS

NIHONGGO LANG. COURSE 5271590

FRENCH LANGUAGE COURSE 5271590

LIGHT 5268216 / 5301315

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

Direct Maid Yaya Boy 7572089

BEST MAIDS 772-4213

Good-Maid-Yaya-Cook 853-3604

EXP. MAIDS w/NBI-9950291

GCM AGENCY
Good Caring Maids
5359317, 0917-6297203

Goma w/NBI MAID4155945

GOOD MAID 5501439•4198422

Good Maid Yaya Driver4379496

Good Maid Yaya Boy 4214652

Help Agency 532-1947 • 532-8376

Maids Boy 4121922 3664375

Maids Yaya cook Lava 7417425

MAIDS*MWIFE*TUTOR*BOY SEC*Driver9208984/4331431

NEED MAIDS?
781-9453 • 0917-369-17-40

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

PROVINCIAL ALL AROUND
MAIDS
Call Josie 8737057•8737055

PROV'L MAID 1ST TIME MLA FROM DAVAO/CDO 7329042

Prov'l Trusted Maids Yaya CALL:9124701 • 9124706

ANGEL'S HANDS
w/ NBI&BI 4213253 / 4213874

LIPAT BAHAY

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

A-1 Lipat Bahay 4313975

L-BAHAY 8383742/09208449984

LBAHAY 7113540

P1000/TRIP 742-14-57

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

ALABANG

AYALA ALABANG
2STY POOL 500m² 16M NEG
DIR. BUYERS 0917-7310820

MAKATI

Dasmarinas Village Houses & Lots 8105139 •8198024

MANILA

LEON GUINTO
NEAR LA SALLE
Bnew/3Sty/3BR/3TB/grge
P3.295M 8903461 loc 34

PARANAQUE

3BR/2TB/Grge 150 sqm cor lot Camella 2 (UPS5) 1.8M 541-3683 / 0916-7390595

BICUTAN 0917-8928471

QUEZON CITY

CONDO 2Kms fr SM Fairview
P381,000/unit
30sqm Pag-ibig Lipat Agad
8179650 / 9750 / 0919-2302120

•Sikatuna9210255/9219967•

Teachers Village BNEW 5BR 4TB 6M 9115476 9132701

Tierra Pura Mira Nila P5M & P8M 931-4946 932-4696

WHITE PLAINS 632m²
w/2storey house 5BR 4car grge big lawn for swimming pool. P20M negotiable. Pls call 9114705/4649 & look for Tita or Chris 0919-4014983

CAVITE

H/L 4 Sale w/Sari-sari store fully furn San Rafael St. Exec. Vill. Lot 1 Blk 10 Phase 2, Bacoor Cavite CP-0919-6287230 look for Emilia

Very close to SM Bacoor P1 1M email sm4sale@yahoo.com

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

1.6M C5 Nr The Fort
12T/mo. or 3Yrs No Int. or 10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD 2-4BR 15min Fr Mkti 0917-8169849

MANILA

NR LA SALLE TAFT
BnewTwnhse/3stry/3br/3tb/grge
P3 295M 8903461 loc 34

1-2-3BR nr La Salle TAFT 894-4516 0917-9853661

MANDALUYONG

Pioneer West 3br UF 4121825

PASIG

ALEXANDRA CONDO
3BR 3TB 250sq.m. Newly Renovated • 637-4298 DBO

ORTIGAS 1BR • 520-0075

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

LAS PINAS

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

LAS PINAS

CORTE BELLA

The Metro Homes Division of:
FILINVEST LAND INC.

DAPHNE
house model

OPEN HOUSE on AUGUST 17

AUBURN PLACE
Pamplona, Las Piñas

Avail of FREE Upgrades
INTERESTED?
Call JOIE at
850-1582

AVAIL of our LOW downpayment and promo package!

Bank • Pag-IBIG • In-house payment available

LAGUNA

SOUTH FORBES
CITY

VIA STA. ROSA

LIVE WHERE THE FUTURE IS

In between Laguna TechnoPark and Ayala Westgrove Heights

02-635-8108 / 636-0111
FAX 635-8176

southforbescity@hotmail.com

FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

CONDO/TWNHSE

PASIG

ORTIGAS CTR 1BR 4121825

QUEZON CITY

2BR P1.6M 58 sqm T.Sora 0916-7179834 RUSH!!!

Cubao 1.4M 10%DP 9132224

LOT

ALABANG

ALABANG 500SQM T5200075

PARANAQUE

Rush Sacrifice Sale 5.5T/sqm 0916-6669887 365sqm Filinvest Sucat

QUEZON CITY

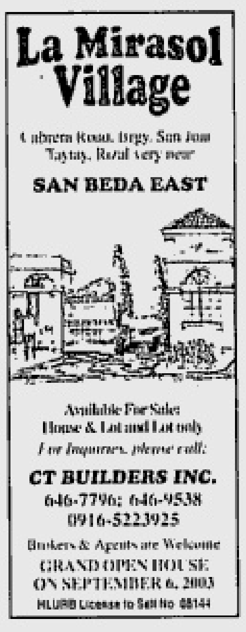
Tierra Pura/Mira Nila Q.C. 227 m2 & up 931-4946 / 932-4696

BATANGAS

5 - Hect Lot - Sto. Tomas Batangas. Ask P250/sqm Tel. 8105223 / 09272617308

LIPA 0917-8928471

RIZAL



La Mirasol Village

Cabrera Road, Brgy. San Juan Taytay, Rizal very near

SAN BEDA EAST

Available For Sale:
House & Lot and Lot only
For Inquiries, please call:

CT BUILDERS INC.
646-7796; 646-9538
0916-5223925

Brokers & Agents are Welcome

GRAND OPEN HOUSE ON SEPTEMBER 6, 2003

HLURB License to Sell No. 08144

LOT

PROVINCIAL

★TAGAYTAY LOTS★
Along H-way low dp/mo. 240m²-up Coldest Spot T6588704 Tolie

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

HOUSE

MANDALUYONG

Up&Down 180m² 3BR/2T&B 2car grge 11 Makaturing St. Coronado Subd. Mand. City • 532-5718 or 531-7229 •

CONDO/TWNHSE

MANDALUYONG

2BR 2TB CONDO 16T 09189420180

PASIG

Alexandra Condo 3BR 3TB 60T/mo Furnished 637-4298 Renaissance 3BR 3TB 65T/mo

SAN JUAN

Greenhills East 80T/mo 3BR Beautiful House w/Pool Furnished • 637-4298

APARTMENT

MAKATI

Makati nr Mkt Square 09196056686

PASIG

3BR Grg nr. Ever 650-8371

QUEZON CITY

CUBAO P3.5T Std Lady 9124428

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

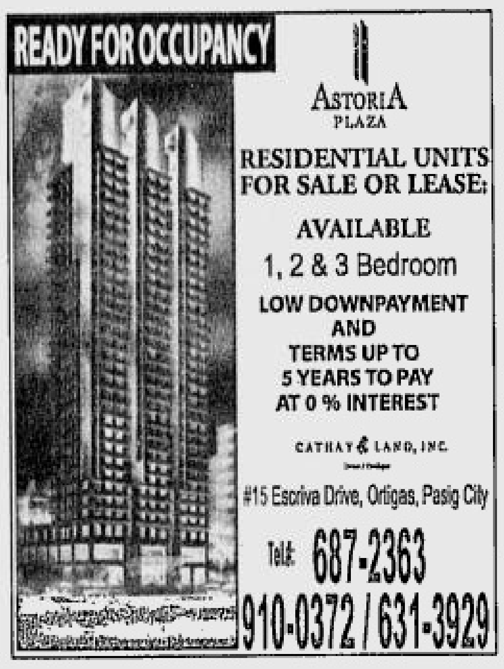
CONDO/TWNHSE

PASIG

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

PASIG



READY FOR OCCUPANCY

ASTORIA PLAZA

RESIDENTIAL UNITS FOR SALE OR LEASE:

AVAILABLE
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom

LOW DOWNPAYMENT AND TERMS UP TO 5 YEARS TO PAY AT 0 % INTEREST

CATHAY LAND, INC.

#15 Escriva Drive, Ortigas, Pasig City

Tels: 687-2363
910-0372 / 631-3929

QUEZON CITY

JUBILEE VILLAS

Celebrate Life
Create Happy Memories

Newly Constructed Top Quality Town Houses in a PRIME LOCATION
3 bedrooms w/2 T&B, attic, living w/ powder room, dining & kitchen maid's room w/T&B, laundry area
1 or 2-car covered garage
CUSTOMIZED INTERIOR COLORS
GFA 110 - 147 SQM
INDIVIDUAL LOT TITLE
Outstanding features & utilities
PHASES 1 & 2 12 UNITS SOLD OUT
PHASE 3 2 UNITS SOLD. ONLY 3 LEFT READY FOR OCCUPANCY
PHASE 4 CONSTRUCTION TO START SOON
VERY AFFORDABLE PRICES
EASY PAYMENT TERMS
BANK & IN-HOUSE FINANCING
VISIT US TODAY AND VIEW OUR MODEL UNIT
90 BANLAT ROAD, TANDANG SORA, QC
FOR INQUIRIES PLEASE CALL

ZITRO REAL ESTATE

Tels 8182781, 7515472
Cell: 0919-6745430
Email jubvilla@info.com.ph
www.jubileevillas.com
HLURB License #04012

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

FOR LEASE

Fabction shop off 7233697

WAREHOUSE/ FACTORY

2-STORY BUILDING
WAREHOUSE / LIGHT INDUSTRY
1, 300 SQ.M. FLOOR AREA
PROVIDENT VILL. MARIKINA

BEDSPACE

F/M P2.5T/mo. 7898660

BUSINESS RENTAL

G/F MALATE OFC 5268048

LOAN & MORTGAGE

1.5% CARLOAN 7880357

2% W/O TAKING CAR 3677523/24

BUSINESS LOANS 524-3197

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

1998 office bldg fresh with prkg/aircon FA80--400sqm P180/sqm Cubao 9950262

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

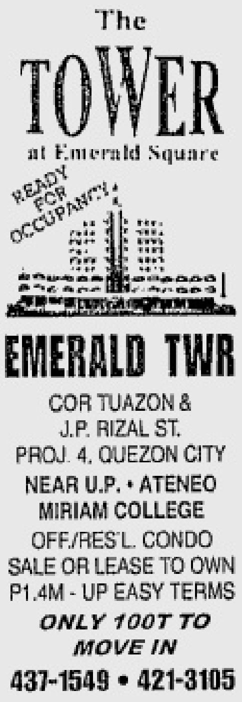
HOUSE & LOT

Brnd New 3BR Brentville Intl Mamplasan Laguna Sale or Rent Call 09178376560

CONDO/TWHSE/ FOR SALE/RENT

Salcedo Vill Mkt Studio 1-3BR Fully Furn 8105130 •8108024

QUEZON CITY



The TOWER
at Emerald Square

READY FOR OCCUPANCY

EMERALD TWR

COR TUAZON & J.P. RIZAL ST.
PROJ. 4, QUEZON CITY
NEAR U.P. • ATENEO MIRIAM COLLEGE
OFF./RES'L. CONDO SALE OR LEASE TO OWN
P1.4M - UP EASY TERMS
ONLY 100T TO MOVE IN
437-1549 • 421-3105

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

BMW

'83 A/T WELL MAINTAINED Dark Gray P415T ALL ORIG. Call 09198616193

HONDA

94 Honda Civic M/T 100K P200T Tel. 8797796

MITSUBISHI

DELICA 1996 4x4 DUAL A/C A/T TINTED3609523

TOYOTA

2002 REVO GL 280K w/accs 2yrs ass bal 0919-8237786

96FX 180K Neg 09198237786

OTHER CAR BRANDS

Pajero Surf Land Cruiser Terrano Delica MU Safari Trooper Town-Hi Ace etc financing T-in with warranty Call 832-0659

Proton 96 All Power 1.6 same engine & parts w/ Mitsubishi GLXI P115T 925-7212; 0917-8400026; 926-0161

MOTORCYCLE

RUSH SALE YAMAHA R-1
BIG BIKE
2002 A1 CONDITION
CALL 8999811 / 8964743-44

PARTS & ACCESSORIES

RUBBER VOLT
EFI
ENGINE TUNE-UP
AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
PARTS & SERVICE GUARANTEED
115 MINDANAO AVE Q.C 9291514
36 WEST AVE QC 3716703
CREDIT CARDS HONORED

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
CENTRAL OFFICE BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue,
Sta. Cruz, Manila, Philippines
Tel. No. (632) 7438301
E-mail Address: www.doh.gov.ph

August 27, 2003

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY/ELIGIBILITY SCREENING AND TO BID

The Department of Health thru the Central Office Bids and Awards Committee (COBAC) is inviting bids from accredited contractors of the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) with minimum license category of "D" and "C" and registration of "Small B" for Building and Industrial Plant with Specialty on Electrical Works for the project **"Proposed Repair of DOH Warehouse 1 & 2"** located at Quirino Memorial Medical Center Compound, Project 4, Quezon City.

The dates to be followed are:

ACTIVITIES	DATE
1. Submission of Letter of Intent, PCAB License and Registration (Bring original copies of Contractor's License for authentication) and Issuance of Eligibility Documents	September 1 to 8, 2003
2. Submission of duly accomplished eligibility documents	September 15, 2003
3. Posting of Eligible Contractors	September 22, 2003
4. Issuance of Bid/Tender Documents	September 24 & 29, 2003
5. Pre-bid Conference	September 30, 2003
6. Submission of Bids (Deadline)	October 14, 2003 (10:00 A.M.)
7. Opening of Bids	October 14, 2003 (10:00 A.M.)

Activity Nos. 1 to 4 above shall be held at the Office of the COBAC Secretariat, Procurement and Logistics Service, Bldg. No. 26, while Activity Nos. 5 to 7 shall be held at the Health Human Resource Development Bureau Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Bldg. No. 12A, DOH Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila.

The complete set of bid documents may be purchased by the interested eligible bidders upon payment of non-refundable fee of **THREE THOUSAND PESOS ONLY (P3,000.00).**

COBAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any required formality and award the contract to any bidder whose proposal as evaluated by COBAC is the most advantageous to the Government. COBAC assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

The Approved Budget Cost will be announced during the Pre-bid Conference.

(Sgd.) ALEXANDER A. PADILLA
Undersecretary of Health and
Chairman – COBAC

(PDI – August 29 and September 5, 2003)

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

CHIPEST IN TOWN
Starex MB100 Coaster
Bus Hi-Ace • 637-7396

1T/Hiace 9136710/4333682

A*TOYCO UDRIVE W/ DRIVER CARS/VANS/REVO 8006595

Bnew Vans 8254058 8261045

L300/Vans 678-8917 (Roger)

MB HIACE URVAN 8276605

MB-100 7415897

Van 0917-6626993 • 6421840

VAN 4 RENT BNEW 843-5701

VANS/CAR 741-1356

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING USED CARS 8990215

CAR LOAN

1.5% CARLOAN 3736519

1.5% Fast Car Loan 3677523/24

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6567685

1HR FastCarLoan 7125202

2% w/o Taking Car 7221021

2% w/o Taking Car 6560140

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

2% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 3732081-82

2% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

PETS

BEAGLE PUP M 09200030815

DOG TRAINER 4528681

WANTED TO BUY

DEFECT TV/A'CON 7325865

EDUCATION PLANS 2528373

BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX+OTHERS
Repair • Polish Any watch
MANILA WATCH EXCHANGE
Hyatt • 804-0484 / 834-2886
Greenhills • 724-4374

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

WANTED TO BUY

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
ROLEX
5646593 5897041
5633742 0917-8473744

BUYING ROLEX
Other WATCHES BEST PRICE
0917-8142309 • 7269687
7220433 • 4123543

WATCH

BUYING ROLEX WATCH
Call 0922-365-3684

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

• COMPANY SALES REPS •
21-30 years old
Male
College Grad (any course)
@ IMPEX (Phils.) Co., Inc.
Tel.# 364-6596 to 98

FEMALE

Dentist,Nurses,Domestic Helper 530-0159 / 0918-5100666

MALE/FEMALE

DIRECT HIRE MKTG PERSONNEL 20-45 COLL GRAD/LEVEL W/ W/O EXP 4370454 MS SHIE

Marketing Company needs strong closer to sell franchises. Proficient in English is a must. Salary of Php30,000+commission+ expenses. Fax resume to Ms. Mary at HRD- 898-2512

OFC STAFF 09207417712 TAZ

OFCMKTG STF 09193352395 KC

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

CAREGIVER TRNG 5271590

AUCTION SALE

MARA PAWNSHOP BR - of 2230 M Roxas St Sta Ana Manila Auction Sale on SEPT. 13, 2003 Sat. at 2 30 in the afternoon - Respectively, Apr. 13-May 13, 2003. - SONS of J. LANUZA, Auctioneer (PDI-Sept. 5, 2003)

MARA PAWNSHOP
I, II, III, IV and Comembo Br. of Makati City.
AUCTION SALE on Sept. 13, 2003, Fri at 10 30, 11.30, 1.30, 12.30 and 8.30 in the morning and on the afternoon, respectively Apr 13-May 13, 2003.
Sons of J Lanuza, Auctioneer
(PDI-September 5, 2003)

PUBLIC NOTICES

AUCTION SALE

MI MARA PAWNSHOP of 251 Quirino Ave. Baclaran, P'QUE. M.M. AUCTION Sale on Sept. 13, 2003, SAT. at 4:00 in the afternoon Respectively, APR. 13-MAY 13, 2003. - SONS of J. LANUZA, Auctioneer (PDI - September 5, 2003)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Remedios Noguera was self-adjudicated by Angelita San Agustin of Manila per Doc.#38, Page #8, Book #367, Series of 2003 of Notary Public L Lawas-Yuto (PDI-Aug. 22, 29, Sept. 5, 2003)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late CHEN SHAN TSAI has been extrajudicially settled among his heirs as per Document # 319; Page #75; Book 45 Series of 2003 before Notary Public Lupe M. Velasco of Manila (PDI- September 5, 12 & 19 ' 2003)

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BOOK DEALERS WANTED
We are an American co-owned importer of American & British books & have been operating in the country for almost 30 years. We are looking for confident & energetic people in sales with entrepreneurial ability to sell our line of high quality book titles, including THE GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS 2004. For details, text your name, address & landline to cell no. 0919-3937695 & we will call you. Or visit/write to: Uni-world Import-Export, Inc., 41-B West Ave., Quezon City.

RETIRE 2YRS 09189051567

Earn 2M Cap 11T 0922-3174830

•OWN UR LIFE• travelandwork fromhome.com 8531008 09178901651

I MAKE P500,000.00/mo
Needs Women To Train 23-48yrs old w/Serious Exp in Mktg Mngt Banking & Finance • Tel # 525-0234 536-8322 •

Increase Your Income 8178235

Intl Hom Bus 9209071038

WORK FR HOME 724-6210

RTW 4 Bazaar 3738821

RTW/BLOUSES P28 727-4934

SMART E-LOAD 500 7252311

GOODYEAR PHILIPPINES INC.

Alabang-Zapote Road, Bgy. Almanza
Las Piñas City

INVITATION TO BID

Goodyear Philippines Inc. is inviting bidders in the sale of the item listed below located at its closed Marikina Plant at 124 Fortune Avenue, Parang, Marikina City.

GENSET:

Main Engine: 2 units – Caterpillar 3612 Gensets, V-Type, 3.0 MW Capacity; V-12, 280MM. Bore Size Direct Injection Pump. AVK Alternator, ABB Model VTC-254-14 Turbochargers, 32,648 & 32,624 Working Hours

Electrical Systems; AVK-SEG Control Systems & Synchronization, ABB DEMAG Vacuum circuit Breakers

Fuel & Lube Oil System: 1 unit – Alfa Laval Standard Booster Module, Vokas Filters, 2 units – Alfa Laval FOPX 605 Separators for Fuel 2, units – Alfa Laval MMPX 304 Separators for Lube Oil

Exhaust Gas Boilers: 2 units – Aalborg AQ-2 Smoke Tube Boilers, 1.130 kg/hr. Capacity, 7 bars Operating Pressure, 2 years old

Bid forms together with bidding rules can be secured at the site during inspection dates. Bids should be submitted to Ms. Maribel Manuel, Purchasing Manager, at Goodyear Philippines Inc., Alabang-Zapote Road, Bgy. Almanza, Las Piñas City on or before Sept. 12, 2003.

Goodyear Philippines Inc. reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect therein, and accept the offer most advantageous to the Company. Goodyear Philippines Inc. likewise assume no obligation to compensate or indemnify the bidders to any expenses or losses that may be incurred in the preparation of bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

For details, please call Ms. Maribel Manuel at telephone no. (632) 876-4514, fax no. (632) 807-1396.

PNOC PETROCHEMICAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

(A WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL OIL COMPANY)

11/F BA Lepanto Building
8747 Paseo de Roxas
1227 Makati City, Philippines

Tel No. 892-0293
892-0283
750-2693

Fax No.: 810-6418

RE-INVITATION TO REGISTER, APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The PNOC-Petrochemical Development Corporation (PPDC) invites interested Filipino contractors currently accredited with the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB), and in good standing to register, apply for eligibility and if subsequently found eligible, to bid for the following project described below:

Project Title/ Scope of Work	Approved Budget	PCAB License Minimum Req't.	Scope of Work/ Duration	Similar Contracts
PPDC Jetty Piles Corrosion Protection Project (WSC-02-010)	P18,303,150.00	Port, Harbor and Offshore Engineering/ Medium B	Application of Corrosion Protection System / 180 CD	Construction of Ports, Harbor and Pier Facilities

A The project is located at the Petrochemical Industrial Estate (PIE) in Limay and Mariveles, Bataan, with funding to be provided by PPDC

B. Only contractors duly registered with PPDC shall be allowed to participate in the eligibility screening. Interested bidders must register not later than the deadline of submission of Letter of Intent (LOI) on September 17, 2003. A list of basic requirements for registration is available from the BAC Secretariat at the PPDC Makati office

C Eligibility statement forms will be issued to registered bidders from September 2-26, 2003, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P100.00

D Application for Eligibility shall be evaluated using a "PASS/FAIL" criteria, and only eligible bidders shall be allowed to participate in the bidding. All bids equal to or lower than the Approved Budget for the Contract to be bid shall be evaluated based on the responsiveness of the Contractor's offer, subject to Post-qualification before an award is made. Bid prices submitted higher than the Approved Budget for the Contract to be bid shall be rejected and returned outright.

E SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES:

Submission of Eligibility Requirements	October 03, 2003 at 1:30 p.m. (PPDC Makati)
Issuance of Bid Documents	October 25 – November 03, 2003
Pre-Bid Conference	November 06, 2003 at 10:00 a.m. (PPDC Bataan)
Submission and Opening of Bids	November 21, 2003 at 10:00 a.m. (PPDC Makati)

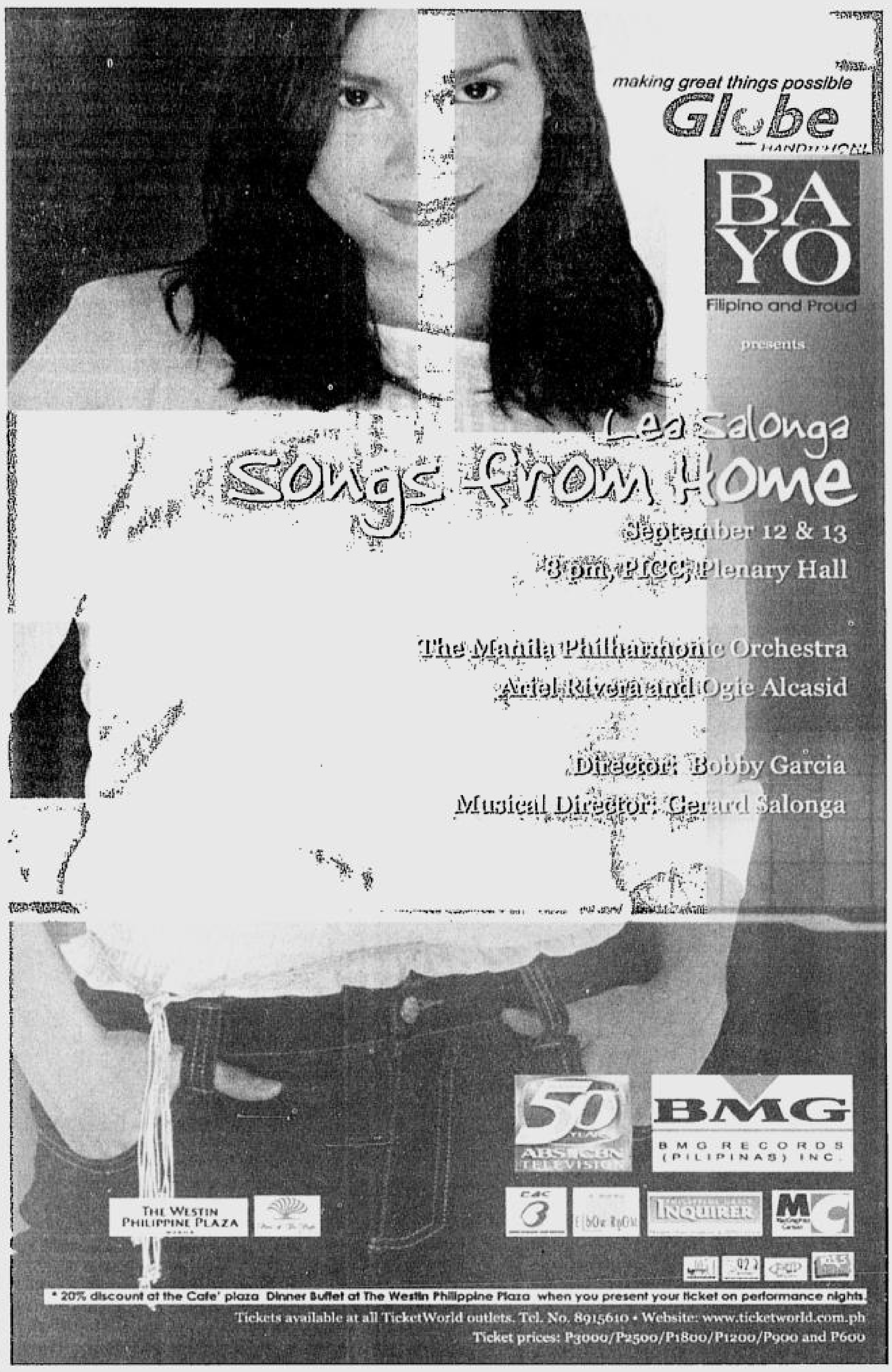
F All particulars relative to registration, eligibility, bidding, evaluation of bids and award of contract shall be governed by the provisions of Executive Order No. 40 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations

G PPDC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or parts thereof, to waive any defect or informality therein, or accept such bid or award any part thereof to any bidder/s whose bid/s is/are considered most advantageous to PPDC. PPDC further assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses or loss they may incur in the preparation of their bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

Signed this 26th day of August, 2003

(Sgd.) VICTORIO MARIO A. DIMAGIBA
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI-Aug. 28 & Sept. 5, 2003)


making great things possible
Globe
HANDYPHONE
BAYO
Filipino and Proud
THE WESTIN PHILIPPINE PLAZA
50 YEARS ABS-CBN TELEVISION
BMG
BMG RECORDS (PILIPINAS) INC.
INQUIRER

presents

Lea Salonga

Songs from Home

September 12 & 13
8 pm, PICC Plenary Hall

The Manila Philharmonic Orchestra
Ariel Rivera and Ogie Alcasid

Director: Bobby Garcia
Musical Director: Gerard Salonga

* 20% discount at the Cafe' plaza Dinner Buffet at The Westin Philippine Plaza when you present your ticket on performance nights.

Tickets available at all TicketWorld outlets. Tel. No. 8915610 • Website: www.ticketworld.com.ph
Ticket prices: P3000/P2500/P1800/P1200/P900 and P600

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY

Quezon City

3 September 2003

NOTICE

TO ALL RICE BASED FARMERS ORGANIZATIONS (FOs) THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE FARMERS-AS-IMPORTERS PROGRAM FOR THE THIRD TRANCHE OF 2003;

THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY, UPON THE APPROVAL OF THE NFA COUNCIL, HEREBY ANNOUNCES THAT THE SCHEDULE OF ARRIVAL OF RICE CARGOES FOR THE THIRD TRANCHE IMPORTATION UNDER THE FARMERS-AS-IMPORTERS PROGRAM IS EXTENDED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30, 2003. ARRIVALS BEYOND THE DATE PRESCRIBED SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A PENALTY OF FIFTY PERCENT (50%) OF THE LANDED COST OF RICE CARGO, PAYABLE TO NFA. THE 50% PENALTY MAY ALSO BE EFFECTED WITH THE WITHHOLDING OR FORFEITURE OF THE CORRESPONDING PERCENTAGE OF IMPORTED RICE.

FOR STRICT COMPLIANCE.

(Sgd.) **ATTY ARTHUR C. YAP**
Administrator

(PDI - Sept 5 2003)

ASI honors new social workers, board topnotcher

THE Asian Social Institute, Inc. (ASI) will hold a program in its Francis Senden Memorial hall at 2 p.m. on Friday, July 25, 2003 in honor of its BSSW graduates who passed the recent board exams for social workers. Among its graduates, Reah A. Medenilla garnered sixth place while Beata B. Agustin got the thirteenth slot in the government licensure exams held last month.

ASI's Bachelor of Science in Social Work (BSSW) degree is a specialized course offered for three semesters as a second college degree to individuals who are envisioned to be working directly with the grassroots. The focus of instruction is in strengthening the philosophical base and in developing among the students the commitment as well as the skills to work with the marginalized groups on a partnership level.

ASI's campus is located in 1518 Leon Guinto Street, Malate, Manila

---

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE
Quezon City

August 28, 2003

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) invites interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid for the following:

Name of Project I : Procurement of 785 units Microcomputers
Location of the Project : BIR National Office
Approved Budget : P51,025,000.00
Contract Duration : Thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of Purchase Order

Name of Project II . Procurement of 50 units Notebooks
Location of the Project . BIR National Office
Approved Budget . P8,500,000.00
Contract Duration : Thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of Purchase Order

All interested parties may get the bidding documents from the BAC Secretariat, c/o Procurement Division at Room 605, 6th Floor, BIR-NOB, Diliman, Quezon City starting **September 1, 2003**, upon payment of non-refundable fee of:

Project I - Ten Thousand Two Hundred Pesos (Php 10,200.00)
Project II - One Thousand Seven Hundred Pesos (Php 1,700.00)

A pre-bid conference will be held on **September 8, 2003 at 9:00 a.m. at the 6th Floor, Room 605, Procurement Division, BIR-NOB, Diliman, Quezon City.**

Deadline for the submission and opening of eligibility requirements, technical and financial proposals shall be on **September 23, 2003 at 9:00 a.m. at 3rd Floor, Executive Conference Room, BIR-NOB, Diliman, Quezon City, and followed by** the opening of the bids

The criteria to be used by the BIR in the following: (a) eligibility check of prospective bidders; (b) examination and evaluation of bids; and (c) postqualification, shall be on a non-discretionary "pass/fail" basis

The BIR assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any loss that they may incur in the preparation of their bid. The BIR also reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any of the required formality therein and accept the bids most advantageous to the government

For particulars, please inquire from the BAC Secretariat, thru the Chief, Procurement Division at Room 605, 6th Floor, BIR-NOB, Diliman, Quezon City or call telephone nos. 926-5547/926-5538 and telefax no. 928-2028 (fax), or e-mail us at nelly.ibo@bir.gov.ph until **September 22, 2003**

(Sgd.) **MILAGROS V. REGALADO**
Assistant Commissioner-Legal Service
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI - Sept 5 2003)

Republic of the Philippines
DAVAO CITY WATER DISTRICT
Km. 5 J.P. Laurel Ave., Davao City, Philippines
Tel. No.: 221-9400 (connecting all departments)
Tel. Nos.: 221-6218 to 19 (Regional Training Center, Madapo Hill, Davao City)
Fax: (82) 226-4885

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Davao City Water District (DCWD) hereby invites all interested Consultancy Firms/Partnership and Associates that are registered with the Bureau of Domestic Trade and with the Securities and Exchange Commission, engaged in Organizational Development Studies for the review and evaluation of organizational pattern and preparation of Appropriate Design of Organizational Pattern for DCWD, being a Government-Owned and Controlled Corporation (GOCC)

APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT P606,237.36

Eligibility requirements are available at the DCWD PEACC c/o The Office of the General Manager starting September 1, 2003, during its business hours. Deadline for the submission of eligibility documents/requirements will be on September 19, 2003. Only pre-qualified bidders can avail the bid documents and Terms Of Reference (TOR) upon payment of a non-refundable amount of Php500.00.

Pre-bid Conference is set on October 31, 2003 at 2:00 P.M. at the DCWD Regional Training Center, Madapo Hills, Davao City; Schedule for the Submission and Opening of Bids will be on November 7, 2003 at 2:00 P.M. at DCWD Board Conference Room, Bajada, Davao City.

DCWD reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality/informality of the bids received and to accept only such bids which are advantageous to the District.

(Sgd.) ENGR. EDWIN V. REGALADO
Chairman, Pre-qualification, Evaluation & Awards Committee for Consultancy (PEACC)

(PDI – Aug. 29 & Sept. 5, 2003)

Republic of the Philippines
Local Civil Registry Office
Province of Palawan
Municipality of Sofronio Española

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

In compliance with Section 5 of R.A. Act No. 9048 a notice is hereby served to the public that **CELIA ALIM VASQUEZ** has filed with this Office a petition for change of first name from **Cecilia** to **Celia** in the birth certificate of **Cecilia Alim** who was born on **June 9, 1955** at **Sipalay, Negros Occidental** and whose parents are **Felino Alim** and **Federica Lirazan**

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office not later than 18 August 2003

(Sgd.) MYRNA M. DOCTO-MAGALLANES
Municipal Civil Registrar

(PDI – Aug. 29 & Sept. 5, 2003)

FOR SALE

1 unit Honda City
2000 1.3 LXI M/T
Green

1 unit Honda City
1999 1.3 LXI A/T
Red

1 unit Toyota Corolla
Altis 2002
A/T Blue (royal)

Call Hermie/Fe
6875396 local 161/163

INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS & WOFEX 2004
WORLD'S FOOD EXPO
August 4 - 7, 2004 • World Trade Center, Metro Manila

Greetings from the INQUIRER Classifieds and WOFEX 2004!

After the initial success of the first World's Food Expo Supplement last August which got a lot of favorable reviews and business opportunities for the companies that placed ads in the said issue, we're back to provide another issue devoted to be the industry's reference of choice

The Philippine Daily Inquirer and WOFEX are working together to come out with a very special supplement that will feature products and services in the food & beverage industry

This special pull-out section of the Philippine Daily Inquirer is a tabloid sized section (7 cols x 30 cm) and is dedicated to feature the country's growing food industry. This Pre-Christmas Edition will be your best bet in getting ahead of the competition for that lucrative CHRISTMAS RUSH!

WORLD'S FOOD EXPO SUPPLEMENT

PRE-CHRISTMAS EDITION

The supplement is scheduled FOR RELEASE on NOVEMBER 21, 2003. In line with this, we are providing you with the following very special advertising rates

FULL PAGE AD (23cm x 30cm)	-	P 51,096.00
HALF PAGE AD (23cm x 15cm)		P 25,350.00
QUARTER PAGE (11.5cm x 15cm)		P 15,620.00
SUPPLIER LISTING (5m x 3cm, text only)	-	P 5,000.00

- Full color advertising with NO color surcharge (except SUPPLIER LISTING)
- Reasonable ad rates in the most read broadsheet in the land
- A most cost efficient and effective advertising medium

ADVERTISING CONTRACT

Yes, we agree to place a ________ page ad in the World's Food Expo Supplement in the amount of P________.00. We also agree to submit the ad material in TIF, EPS or JPEG format no later than November 3, 2003.

Name ________ Company ________
Position ________ Address ________
________ Tel. No. ________ Fax No. ________
Email ________ Website ________ Signature ________

CONTACT INFORMATION

Premier Events Plus Group, Inc.
Unit 203 Golden Legacy Bldg. 98 Xavierville Ave. Loyola Heights Q.C.
Tel (632) 4364711/12, 9297063/93 Fax 4364898 Email info@PEPGroup.com Website www.PEPGroup.com

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

OBITUARIES

THE HERITAGE PARK
FORT BONIFACIO
more than just a memorial park
Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig,
Metro Manila, 1632
(632) 845-2334 to 38 loc. 109/112;
(632) 845-2341 or (632) 845-2342
sales@heritagepark.com.ph

Ephesians 1:7
"In him we have redemption in his blood,
the forgiveness of sin, in accordance with the riches of God's grace"

ATTY. JOSE ALCAZAR ACUÑA

(of Cabuyao, Laguna)

President & Chairman of the Board of Directors
Rural Bank of Malasiqui, Inc. (Pangasinan)
Rural Bank of Bautista, Inc. (Pang.)
Kaunlaran Rural Bank, Inc. (Manaoag, Pang.)
Founder and Past President-Rural Bankers Association of Pangasinan

Peacefully joined our Creator on September 2, 2003 at the age of 89.

His bereaved wife **Atty. Dolores Peralta Acuña**, brother **Atty. Arsenio Al. Acuña**, sister **Ester Arnaldo**, children & in-laws **Jose Gil** (†) and **Monette**, **Pete** & **Prescy Cruz**, **Bob** & **Menchu Sacramento**, **Rebecca**, **Jose Gerardo** & **Marites**, **Vincent** & **Annabelle Pastoral**, **Eric** & **Rosalie**, **Art** & **Linda Calumay**, grandchildren, nephews, nieces and other relatives, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the family residence in Malasiqui, Pangasinan. Requiem Mass will be held at St. Ildephonse Malasiqui Catholic Church at 10:30 a.m. Cremation will be on Sunday, September 7, 2003, 1:00 p.m. at the Eternal Garden Crematorium, A.B. Fernandez West, Dagupan City.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT MESSAGE OF THANKS DEATH ANNIVERSARY REQUIEMS FREE OBIT DESIGN

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL
12 G Araneta Avenue Quezon City Tels 715-1025, 715-1031; 715-1027
ARLINGTON EAST THE GARDEN CHAPELS
C Raymundo St cor Mercedes Ave San Miguel Ave , Pasig City
Tels 747-8599 747-8609 • Telefax 641-1700
AUREA QUIOGUE FUNERAL HOMES
243 A B Fernandez Ave Dagupan City Pangasinan
Tels (0785) 522-3451 522-2128 (0917) 434-9976
CAPITOL MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
1305 G Araneta Ave Quezon City
Tel 732-0309, 732-1095
CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Cebu Branch A S Fortuna Street Banilad Mandaue City Cebu. Tels. 346-2543; 346-2601
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Nivel Hills Lahug Cebu City Tels 231-0721 231-3192
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext cor J Abad Santos, Davao City. Tels. (082) 227-1201; 227-1259
DAYAO FUNERAL HOME
#2 Bayani St Galas Quezon City Tels 740-2683; 781-3705, 781-3988; 413-9400; 715-5591
DALLUAY MEMORIAL SERVICES
#42 Upper Kalaklan, Olongapo City
Tels (047) 222-3605 (047) 611-1086; (047) 222-4512; (047) 224-2014
DON BOSCO CHAPELS
Pasay Road Makati City. Tel 894-5932 to 34
DULCE MEMORIAL SERVICES
Jose Abad Santos Ave cor Dinalupihan St , Manuguit, Manila
Tels 712-5102 741-5125 741-5133 Fax No. 711-3064
DYNASTY MEMORIAL CHAPELS
965 Del Monte Ave Frisco Quezon City Tels 416-3231; 4162373
ERIC SANTIAGO MEMORIAL CHAPELS
28 Bayanbayan Ave Concepcion I, Marikina City; Tels. 942-6044; 475-1177
FLORESCO FUNERAL HOME
219 Gen Luna St Concepcion Malabon, Metro Manila, Tels. 2812083; 2813034; 2810522
FUNERARIA PANGILINAN
Santo Entierro cor P Burgos St , Lourdes Sur, Angeles City
Tels (045) 888-2959 (045) 322 5247
FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIOGUE
No 87 Pasig Boulevard Extension, Pasig City; Tels 641-7900 641-1735
M Almeda St Pateros Metro Manila, Tels 642-3010, 633-3602
FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
187 Real St Zapote Alabang, Las Piñas; Tels. 873-0507; 873-0024
FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
865 J P Rizal St Poblacion Makati City: Tels 890-3558, 899-8191
FUNERARIA TUASON
Poblacion San Miguel Bulacan 3011. Tels (044) 764-0281, 678-0266; (0917) 805-0603
FUNERARIA SAMSON
145 Bayan Luma, Imus Cavite Tels (046) 471-3375, 471-2675
GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK
Casadang Bago Pateros Metro Manila Tels 642-6181 to 82
HERITAGE PARK
Bayani Road Fort Bonifacio, Taguig Metro Manila
Tels (DL) 845-2341 to 42 (TL) 845 2334 to 38 loc. 110/112
HOLY GARDENS MEMORIAL PARK
Third Level Unishopps Complex
Quezon Ave Angono Rizal
Tels 651-1711 651-0737
HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Dr A Santos Ave Sucat Rd Sucat Parañaque City; Tels. 825-1298; 825-1291, Telefax: 825-1314
LA FUNERARIA LAWRENCE BAQUIRAN
#27 Crisologo St Vigan Ilocos Sur Tel 722 2730 Cell (0917) 5580130; (0917) 5800145
Manila #23 Palo St , Project 2, Quezon City. Tel. 434-3258

LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
1501 C.M. Recto Ave cor T Mapua, Manila; Tels 711-6931 to 35 732-4795 732-2827
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
143 G Araneta Ave cor Kaliraya St , Quezon City
Tels 749-3806 to 11 712-3001 743-6502 or 05
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, SUCAT, INC.
Dr. A. Santos Ave , Sucat, Parañaque Tels 820-1592 825-9947 825-8635
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
79 Naguilian Rd., Baguio City. Tel (074) 443-3337 (074) 442-3117
LA FUNERARIA SAPINOSO
G. Tirona St., Imus, Cavite; Tels. (046) 471-3385 (046) 471-4417 (046) 571-1978
LOYOLA MEMORIAL CHAPELS
EDSA cor Bernardino St Guadalupe Makati City Tels 895-1011 to 19
LOYOLA MEMORIAL PARK CHAPELS & CREMATORY SERVICES
Loyola Memorial Park A Bonifacio Avenue Tanong Marikina City
Tels. 941-3195 to 98 941-3676 Telefax 941-3577
MARIAN MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Marcos Hiway, Antipolo, Rizal Tels 645-1855 682-0209 682-0210
MARCELO FUNERAL HOMES
Tels 283 1613 273-8922
MT. SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL
Arellano St , Dagupan City; Tels. (075) 515-5960 522-8783 (0917) 520-5001
NACIONAL MEMORIAL HOMES
264 G Araneta Avenue Quezon City
Tels 713-5231 to 35 714-0867 714-0866
OUR LADY OF PEACE MEMORIAL PARK
CHAPEL & SERVICES, INC.
No 6 Cangma St Antipolo City 1870
Tel. No 697-0782 697-0026 650-7426 Fax 697-2764
PAKET SANTIAGO MEMORIAL HOMES
13 V Gomez St , San Roque Marikina City Tels 646-1725 646-1730
POPULAR MEMORIAL CHAPELS, INC.
2141 Rizal Ave., Sta Cruz, Manila Tel Nos 254-0867 254-0839
PRIME MEMORIAL CHAPELS
200 Commonwealth Ave Quezon City Tels 427-0412 4278403
ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Ground Flr. Rolling Hills Chapel, 27th-Lacson St Mandalagan Bacolod City Tel 433 7132
RIZAL FUNERAL HOMES
438 Cementina St Pasay City Tels 831-1204
Sucat Branch 8187 Dr A Santos Ave Sucat Parañaque City
Tels 826-1376 826-9682 (0315) 712-1220
SANTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO PARISH
Forbes Park Makati City. Tel Nos 843 8838 30 Fax No 843-9223
SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH
East Greenhills Mandaluyong City Telefax 724-4139 725 2944
ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH
Magallanes Village Makati City Tels 852-8228 852-7284
ST. MARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL
18-15 G. Tuazon cor Loreto St , Sampaloc, Manila Tels 743 3679 781-1772
ST. PETER FUNERAL HOMES
298 Quezon Ave Quezon City. Tels 372 5084 410-9286 87
UNIVERSAL FUNERAL SERVICE & MEMORIAL CHAPELS
2028 Rizal Ave Sta Cruz Manila Tels 491-4458 493-4540
VERONICA MEMORIAL HOMES
Official NBI Morgue 517-A Arnaiz St Pasay City
Tels 831 3797 844-7846 843-1801 845-4836
WELINGTON FUNERAL SERVICES
1511 Gen Luna St Paco Manila Tel 302 5447
ZUASOLA FUNERAL HOMES
Brgy Del Remedio, San Pablo City Laguna
Tels. (049) 562-1060, 800-2814 Cel. No (0917) 5010063

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments

.. Jesus said to her, 'Mary.' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabboni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her,
' go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascendinig to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' Mary Magdalene went and said to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her..

(John 20:16-18)

MAGDALENA (Nena) M. MAÑGONA

Peacefully joined her Creator
on August 31, 2003 at the age of 86.

Her loving brothers, sisters and their spouses, **FLORENTINO** (†) and **CONCEPCION** (†), **BONIFACIO** (†) and **MARIA**, **SILVESTRE** (†) and **ROSALIA**, **JACINTA** (†), **PEDRO** and **BRIGIDA**, **ANTONIO** and **TERESA**, **AGUSTIN** and **CARIDAD**, her nieces and nephews, relatives and friends request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City. Interment will be on Sunday, September 7, 2003 at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque after the 2:00 p.m. Mass.

The Family of the late

ROSENDO M. MANLAPAT, SR.

Wish to convey our profound gratitude and
sincere appreciation for your warm presence,
for the flowers and offerings generously given,
for the prayers and holy masses offered,
for messages of sympathy, for those who gave
donations, kept vigil, attended the funeral rites
and who, in countless ways, helped and
comforted us in our time of grief.

We Sincerely Thank You.

BUSINESS

Globe nears deal with AT&T, MCI

By Abigail L. Ho

AN agreement between American carriers AT&T Corp. and MCI Worldcom Inc. and local telecommunications giant Globe Telecom Inc. could edge the industry closer to a solution to the months-old dispute over the rates charged by, local firms for receiving calls from the United States.

Globe senior vice president Gil Genio revealed in an interview that communication lines between the Ayala-led telecommunications firm and the two US carriers remained open and that an agreement on the termination rates could materialize soon.

"The gap has narrowed between what we would like and what they would like. In general, there's recognition that we deserve the rates that we have now," he told reporters.

Although admitting that the two American carriers proposed alternative rates to the ones local carriers were currently implementing, he declined to give exact figures, citing the sensitivity of the negotiation process.

But Genio did say that Globe and the two carriers were now more open to a compromise.

AYALA LAND HOLDS MANGO FESTIVAL

Guests of Ayala Westgrove Heights will be treated to a fun-filled day of sampling delicious mangoes on September 7, 2003 at 10am as it launches its new Ridgewood Phase in Silang, Cavite.

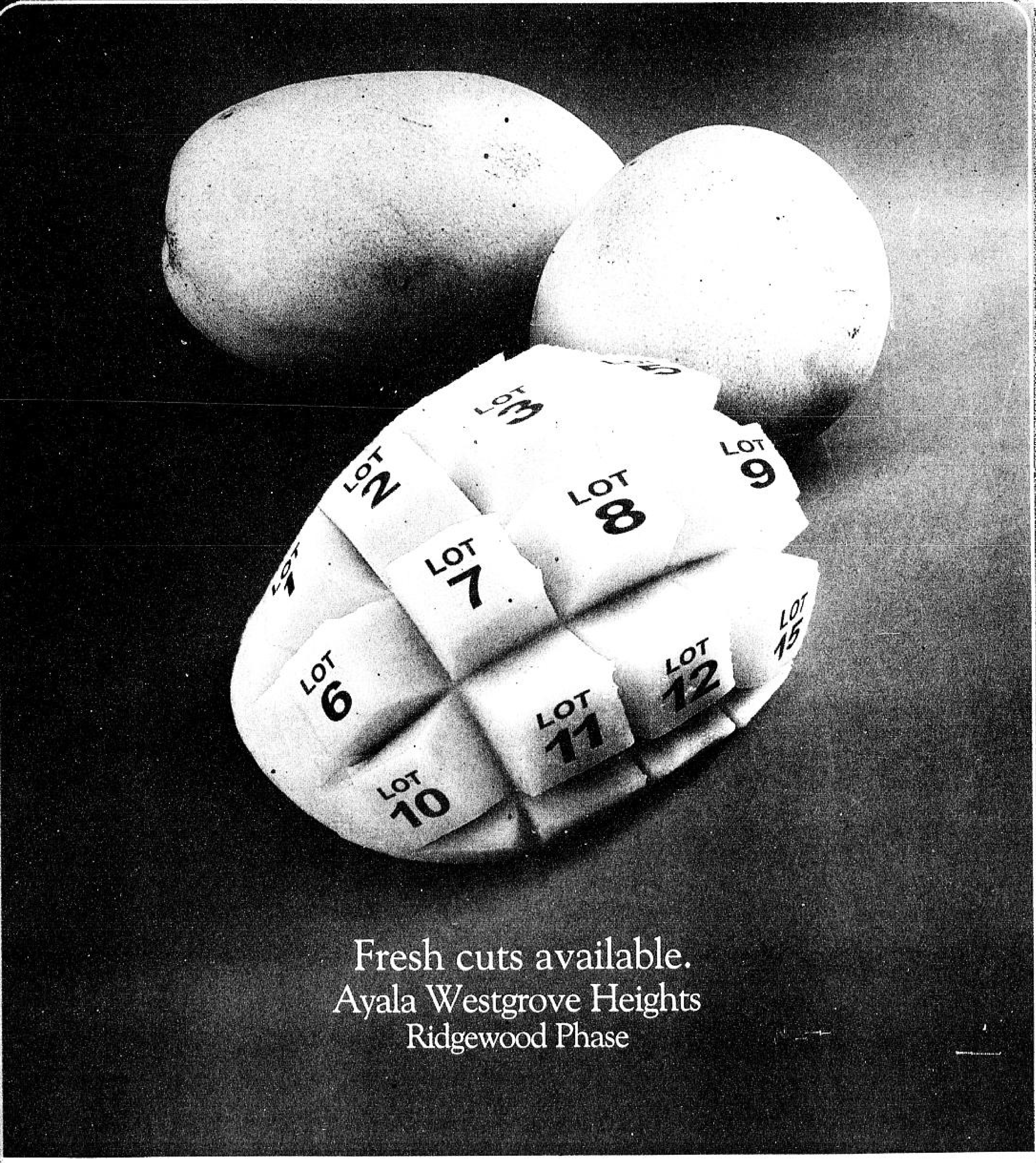
The event featuring Ayala Westgrove Heights' first ever Mango Festival, showcases a ceremonial mango tree planting to formally unveil the new Ridgewood Phase, a ribbon cutting ceremony to inaugurate the newly constructed bridge, as well as a sampling of mango delights during a cooking demonstration facilitated by a culinary master chef. There will also be a mango painting activity for kids and a mango market to allow participants to purchase variants of the delectable produce.

Ayala Westgrove Heights used to be a mango orchard before it was transformed into a residential hideaway teeming with natural flora and fauna. With the opening of Ridgewood Phase, Ayala Westgrove Heights furthers its position as the most ideal location for a primary home as it offers not just exclusivity amidst a serene, natural environment but also views of the scenic Mount Makiling, and Tagaytay. Its quaint and friendly atmosphere is also seen to foster not only closer family ties but also neighborly relations that proved to be important components in building Ayala Westgrove Height's dynamic community.

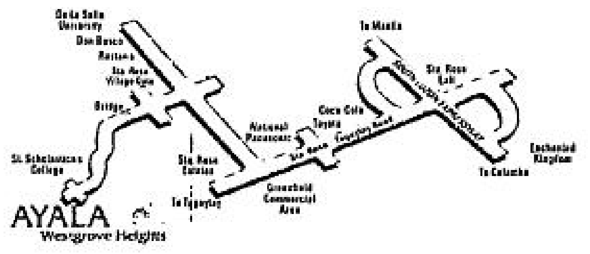
Ayala Westgrove Heights is an emerging residential community within Silang, Cavite. Apart from its valued amenities, it boasts of close proximity to prestigious educational institutions such as De La Salle University-Canlubang, St. Scholastica's College and Don Bosco as well as other commercial establishments.

For inquiries about Ayala Westgrove Heights, call 848-5000 or log on to www. ayalaland. com. ph

advt'l.


LOT 3
LOT 2
LOT 8
LOT 9
LOT 1
LOT 7
LOT 6
LOT 12
LOT 15
LOT 11
LOT 10
Fresh cuts available.
Ayala Westgrove Heights
Ridgewood Phase

Your home amidst the hills and groves.


De La Salle University
Don Bosco
Sta. Rosa Village Gym
Bridge
St. Scholastica's College
Sta. Rosa Estates
To Tagaytay
Greenfield Commercial Area
Panasonic
Coca Cola
Toyota
Sta. Rosa
Tagaytay Road
To Manila
Sta. Rosa Exit
South Luzon Expressway
Enchanted Kingdom
To Calamba
AYALA
Westgrove Heights

Now, more of life as you like it at Ayala Westgrove Heights Ridgewood Phase. This latest phase of Ayala Westgrove Heights offers a whole new taste of the good life with features and amenities that are unique to Ridgewood Phase. Enjoy various rest and recreation activities at the Sports Center, perfect that stroke on the putting green, or just spend a lazy Sunday afternoon with the family at the nature park, all set on rolling hills and sun-kissed groves. Visit Ayala Westgrove Heights now and be among the first to call this haven home.

AYALA
Westgrove Heights

AYALA LAND, INC.

Call 848-5000 • e-mail: ayala-sales@ayalaland.com.ph • Log on to www.ayalaland.com.ph

HLURB license to sell numbers: R4-99-08-0092, R4-99-08-0093, R4-99-08-0090, 01843-R4-00-05, 01844-R4-00-05 and 01880-R4-00-09, 08196-R4A-03-08

Multimedia Kit Promo
Get a Multimedia Kit* when you buy a Palm™ Zire™ 71 from August 31 to September 30, 2003!
FREE!

FRIDAY,
SEPTEMB [illegible] 2003

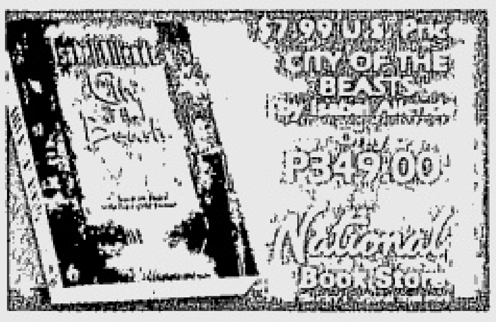
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

C1

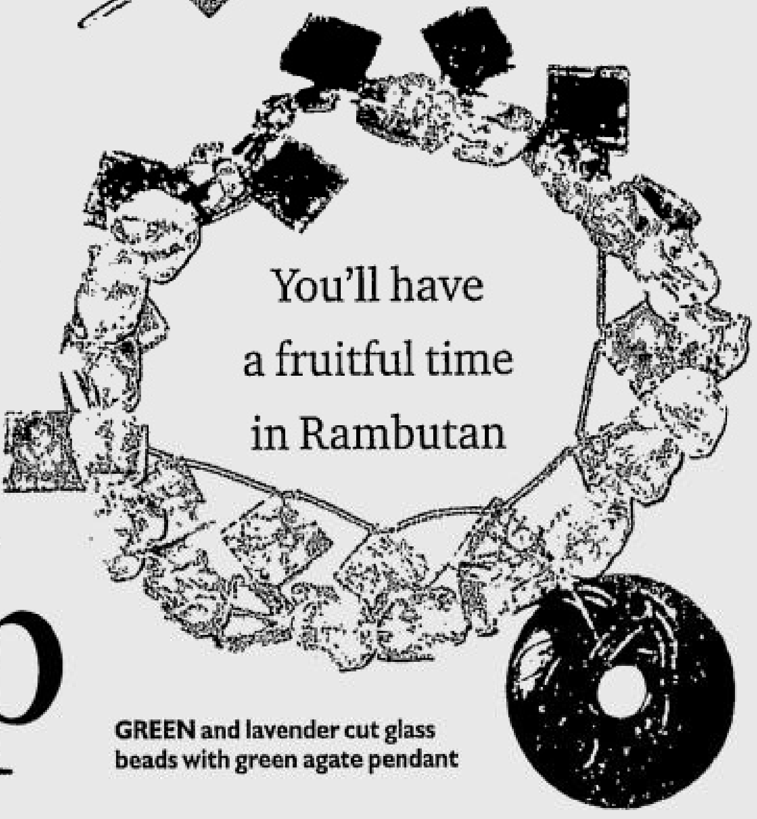
Trend Setting
eSTYLE

For feedback, text us at (0919) 880-3354 or (0916) 200-1160
or e-mail us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso


CITY OF THE BEASTS
P349.00
National Book Store

Shop till you open a shop

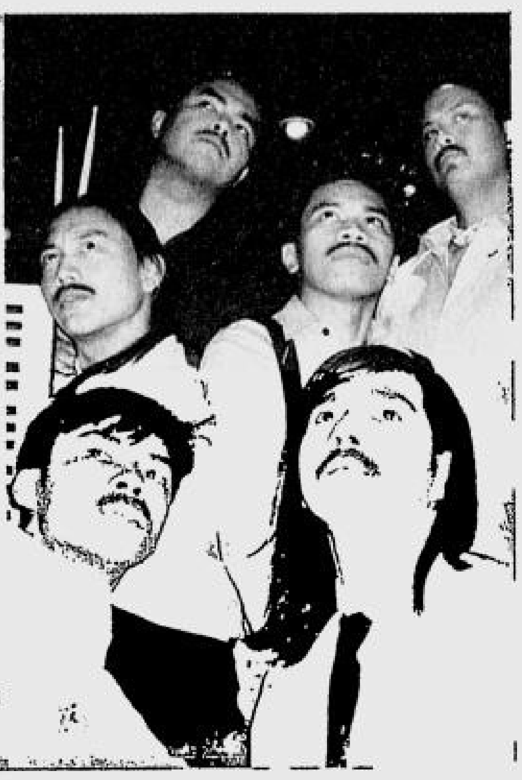

You'll have a fruitful time in Rambutan

GREEN and lavender cut glass beads with green agate pendant

By Kitty Go
Contributor

BENG Fores and her daughter, architect/decorator Chat, literally epitomize the statement, "These days every woman and her mother are either into making bags or jewelry." Their former home turned shop, Rambutan (32 11th St., New Manila), is a temple to their years of shopping with the seeming intent to keep everything for themselves, but "We don't get to use everything, so it was a good idea to open a shop and do something prof-

SHOP/ C2


this Week
SM SUPERMALLS

Parokya ni Edgar
as
Bigotilyo
album tour

September 6

4pm
Center, Atrium

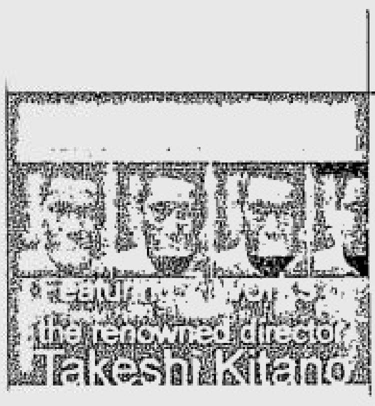
SM
SUPERCENTER
BICUTAN

SM CINEMA
Salutes

Eiga Sai 2003:
The Kitano Selection
and Films from the ASEAN

SM Cinema
Megamall
September 3 to 7, 2003

ADMISSION IS FREE



Fireworks [Hana-bi, 1998]
Kids Return [Kizzu Ritaan, 1996]
Boiling Point [3 tai 4 Ekkusu Jugatsu, 1990]
Kikujiro [Kikujiro no Natsu, 1999]
Sonatine [Sorachine, 1993]
Violent Cop [Sono Otoko, Kyobo ni Tsuki, 1989]
A Scene at the Sea [Ano Natsu, Ichiban Shizuka na Umi, 1991]

Including 5 of ASEAN's films

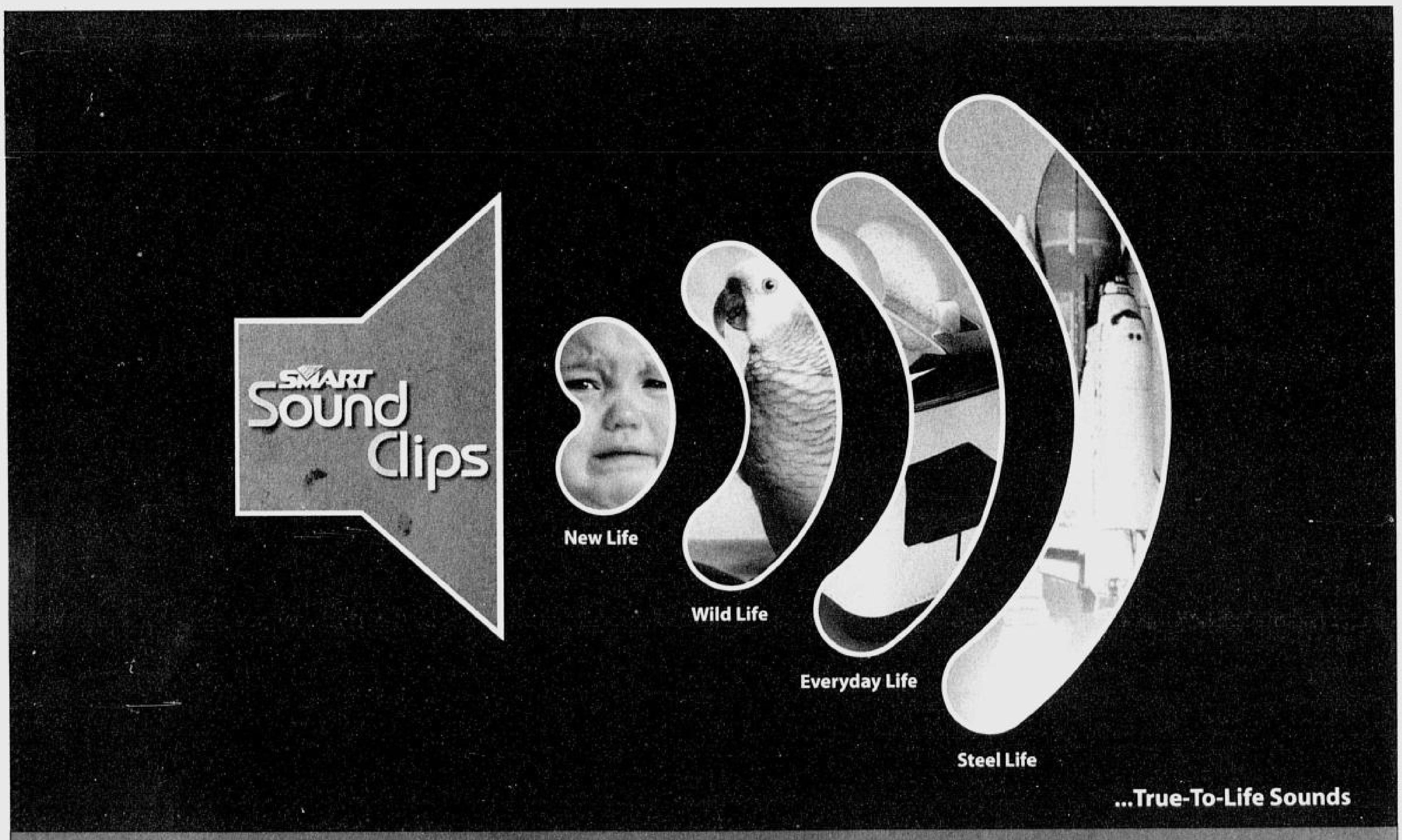
Thailand's *House of the Peacock*
Vietnam's *Nostalgia for Countryland*
Malaysia's *Jogho*
Indonesia's *Whispering Sands*
And the ASEAN collaborative film, *Southern Winds*

*all films are subtitled in english

Brought to you by:
The Japan Foundation Manila Office

For the:
ASEAN-Japan Exchange Year 2003

Supported by:
JAL JAPAN AIRLINES
JICC, EMBASSY OF JAPAN



Get true-to-life sound bytes only with Smart Sound Clips!

Now, you can enjoy a wide array of digital-clear animal, mechanical or human sound bytes as ringtones or message alert tones. Smart Sound Clips is available for Nokia 3300, N7650, N3650 & Sony Ericsson P800.

Download Smart Sound Clips via WAP or MMS.

To download SMART Sound Clips thru WAP:
Log on to http://wap.smart.com.ph and click on 'Sound Clips'

To get a list of available Sound Clips:
- N3300 - Send SOUNDTRUE to 234 or 209
- N7650/N3650/P800 - Key in SOUNDWAVE to 234 or 209

To download SMART Sound Clips:
- N3300 - Send SOUNDTRUE <keyword> to 234 or 209
- N7650/N3650/P800 - Send SOUNDWAVE to 234 or 209

You'll receive your requested Sound Clip via MMS.

SMART Sound Clips cost per download is P15.00
Available to all SMART Gold, SMART Buddy, Talk 'N Text and Addict Mobile subscribers.

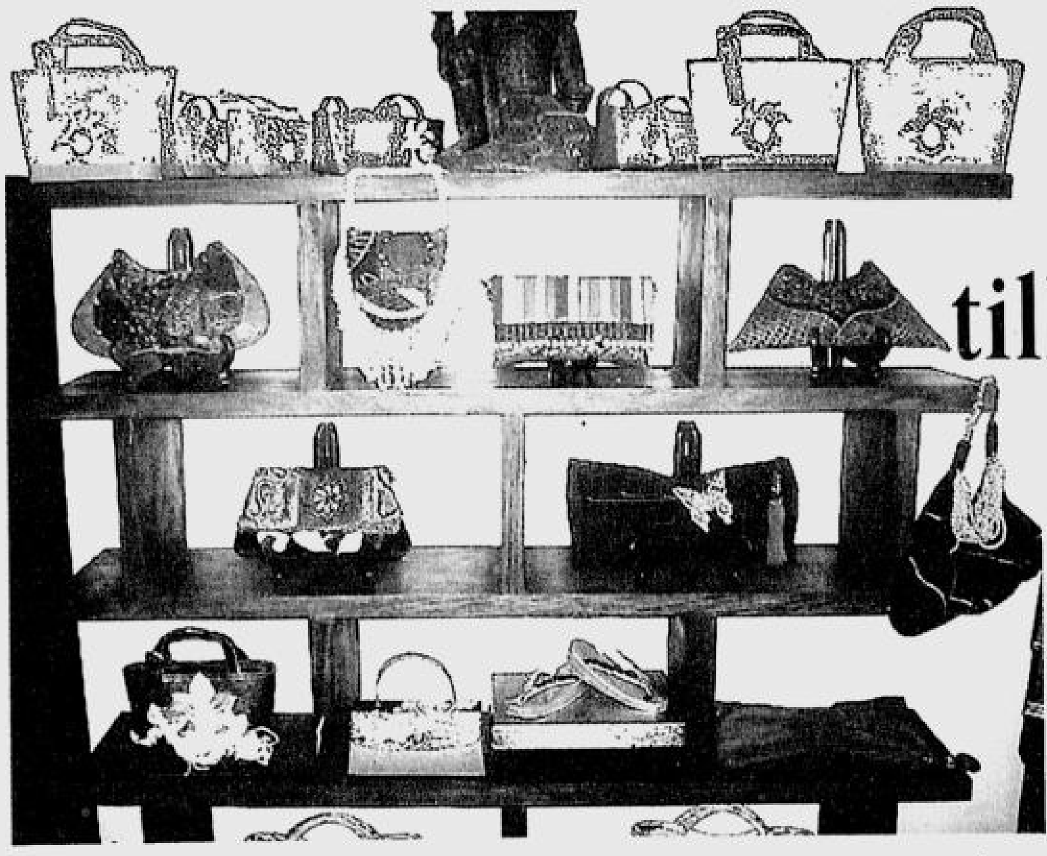
Ringtone Keywords	
AIRASSAULT	PAGING
ALIENLFEFORM	RELOADSOON
CANNEDLAUGH	SELFDESTRUCT
DRAGRACE	SEXY
HAPPYBDAY	WIFECALLING

For listed ringtones, send keywords to 234.

Message Alert Keywords	
BOATHORN	FLUSH
BOING3	GOAT
CATMEOW	KISS
CRYBABY	M60
DOGBARK	SNORE

For listed message alerts, send keywords to 209.

SMART
Simply Amazing!
Sound Clips



BAGS (all P1,000) in rattan with amethyst straps and suede clutches with decorative tassels and appliqués

Shop till you open a shop

From page C1

itable," exclaimed Beng. The shop is called Rambutan because this tree on the grounds was Chat's grandmother's favorite.

Making an entrance

The life of a doctor's wife is a balance of sharing your husband's medical angst and emergency wake-up calls with well-organized vacations and tours posing as "medical conventions." It is during these trips abroad and their family vacations that Beng, probably the best-dressed intellectual in Philippine history. ("When I was younger I was an intellectual, but I always dressed in colors"), buys stones of unusual colors, shapes and sizes. There is, also of course, the reliable Virra Mall.

"My fantasy is to be at Virra Mall when it opens and make jewelry with everything I can until closing," says Beng, who 10 years ago used to design jewelry out of real stones but this time prefers to use the less expensive variety because of "duplication and collection problems."

Beng's jewelry is not for the fashion fainthearted. Clearly, it is not for the slavish and more conservative Armani-Gucci-Prada followers of fashion, but for women who have their own strong, personal styles just like her and her daughter. In her dramatic makeup and emerald shantung silk pantsuit, she says that her jewelry is not for everyone. You'll either love it or hate it. Her pieces are not knock-offs from designer collections or magazines (although she adores Stephen Dweck's line) nor are they delicate pieces of Swarovski crystals and pearls or multi-strand chokers "every woman and her mother" claims to design. She makes oversized floral brooches (P350) and strings large black agates, onyx, faux coral and turquoise, keishis of every color and brilliance, carnelian, sandstone, mother of pearl, lapis lazuli, into unusually entrance-making pieces (all about P3,950) that it is impossible to say, "I can copy that with stones from Virra Mall." She makes new jewelry every two days, but the pieces are sold even before they make it to the floor. And she does *not* repeat designs.

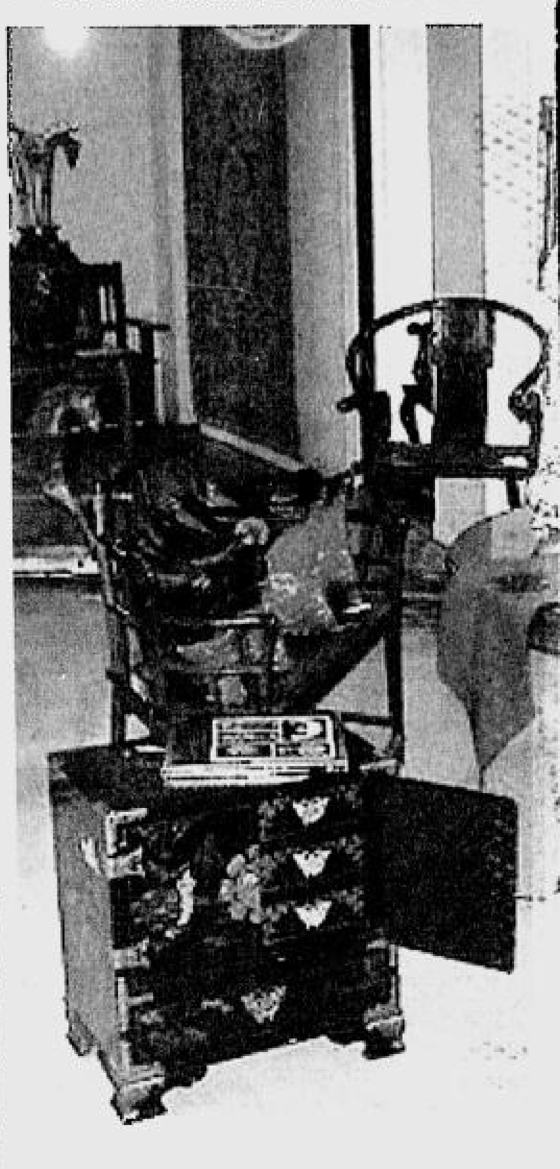
Shopping overflows

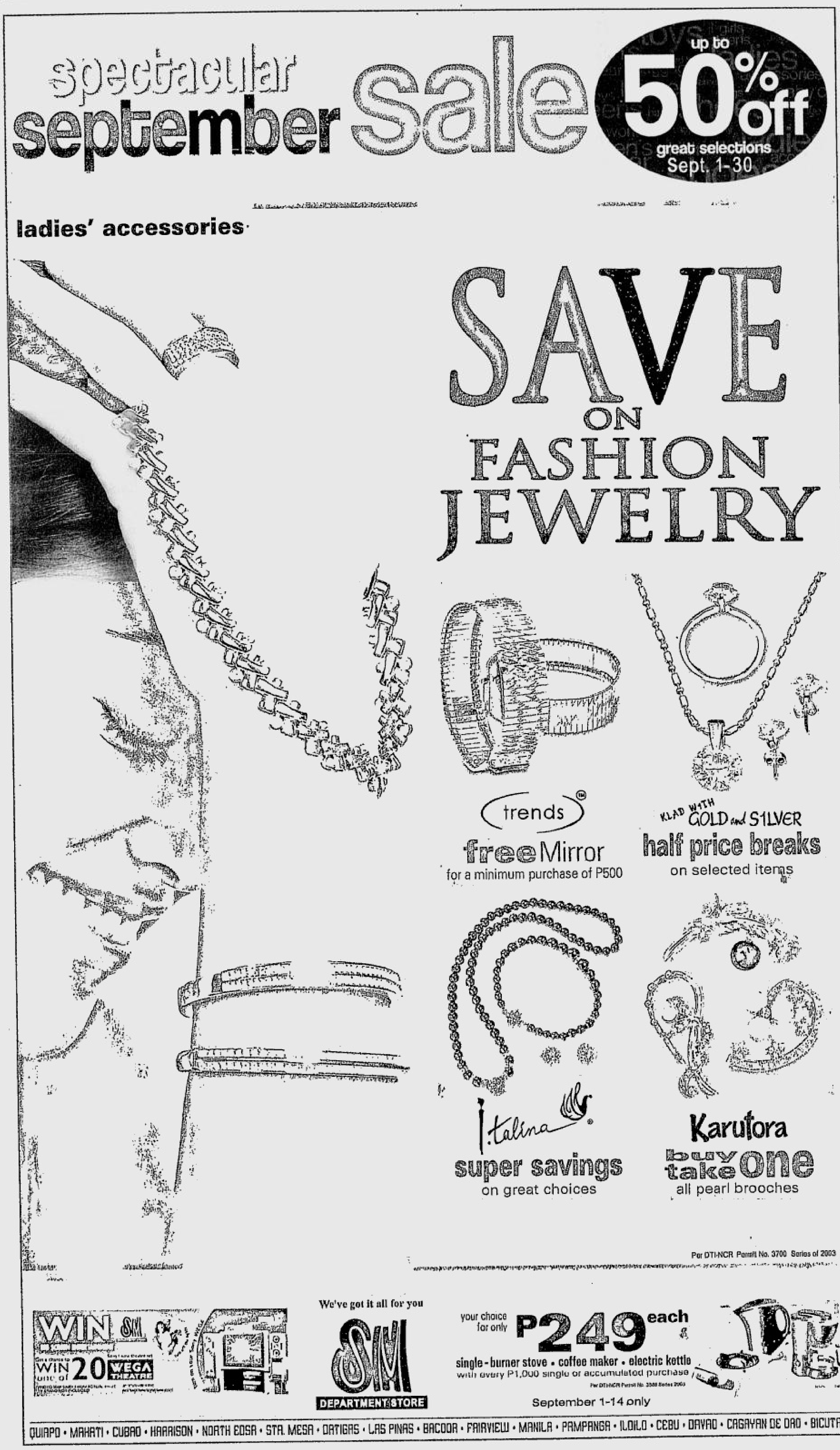
Chat worked with the architectural firm of Leandro V. Locsin Partners for four years before striking (very successfully, one might add) on her own. Her last projects with the firm were De La Salle University in Canlubang and ABS-CBN's ELJ Center. She has made a name for herself in commercial design mostly for small places with a youthful and hip ambience, such as Nail Spa, clothing store Luscious, Bento Box Bistro, World Topps Café and Renergy Dermatology and Laser Center. She is gradually moving into decorating larger establishments with her foray into model units for Robinsons Land.

"She never really got good grades at school but she showed real artistic talent," says Beng of her daughter, who has received a plum job offer from top New York Old Guard society decorator John Saladino, but says, "I have to think about it because I have lots of work here..."

Much of Chat's job also entails shopping for private clients, and there is one great temptation that she often yields to: shopping for herself. Rambutan's home accessories are a testament to Chat's eye for the unusual. Distinctively North Asian pieces such as sumo lunch kits from Kyoto (boxes they serve lunch in at sumo wrestling matches) for P600, Imari plates (P2,500 a pair), 12th-14th century replica Chinese ironstone jars (P1,000 and P2,000) and lacquer cabinets (P12,000 a pair) share the room with Southeast Asian pieces like Balinese stone reliefs (P 4,500); *narra, molave* and *kamagong* walking sticks (P350) expertly hand-carved by a surgeon friend when not using his knife on a human body. There are also white wares and celadon perfect for casual dining. According to Chat, good prints make inexpensive and stylish substitutes for paintings yet they are very difficult to find in Manila, so she stocks American prints at the shop.

Since New Manila can be a day trip for many, Rambutan can send jewelry in delightful *siopao* containers to you. Ask to see their bags (all P1,000) in rattan with amethyst straps and suede clutches with decorative tassels and appliqués. You can also get on the mailing list for sales at the store. However, if you like what you see, you must grab it, as once the goods are gone, they are gone forever.





spectacular september sale
up to 50% off great selections Sept. 1-30
ladies' accessories
SAVE ON FASHION JEWELRY
trends™ free Mirror for a minimum purchase of P500
KLAD WITH GOLD and S1LVER half price breaks on selected items
Italina® super savings on great choices
Karutora buy one take one all pearl brooches
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3700 Series of 2003
WIN SM Get a chance to WIN one of 20 WEGA THEATRE
We've got it all for you
SM DEPARTMENT STORE
your choice for only P249 each
single-burner stove • coffee maker • electric kettle
with every P1,000 single or accumulated purchase
September 1-14 only
QUIAPO • MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA • ORTIGAS • LAS PINAS • BACOOR • FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA • ILOILO • CEBU • DAVAO • CAGAYAN DE ORO • BICUTAN

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

RAMBUTAN'S home accessories are a testament to Chat's eye for the unusual.

NDARIN orange Czech glass ds with rhinestone dragon fly dant, brooch to match

JQUET of jade mother of pearl leaves rhinestone ticolored flowers

TWO strands of big citrine hearts and carnelian crystals

AT (standing) and mom **Beng Fores**

ll Chat Fores at 0918-9398013 or e-mail at chatfores@hotmail.com or chat-@pacific.net.ph

mail the author at kitty_go@hotmail.com

Alumni homecoming set tomorrow

GOINGS ON

MARYKNOLL High School Class of 1978 and Maryknoll/Miriam College Alumni Association will hold a grand alumni homecoming tomorrow, 3-11 p.m. at Miriam College Grounds, Katipunan Avenue, QC. Call 4260173 or 5805400.

GRANDPARENTS' DAY. Robinsons Malls will mark Grandparents Day on Sept. 7 with fun events: search for the best singing *lolo* and *lola* tomorrow at Robinsons Place Imus, and Sept. 7, Robinsons Metro East, Novaliches, Sta. Rosa and Starmills, Pampanga; Grandparents Fair, Sept. 7. Call 6327672/6337641.

BAZAAR. Caruso Enterprises presents Bazaar X-Travaganza on Sept. 14 and Oct. 19 at Santuario de San Antonio Parish Hall and grounds, Forbes Park, Makati, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Call 3735009/0919-5185143.

EXHIBIT. Avid Sales Corp. features an exhibit of Sharp products at Telecom World, Robinsons Place Ermita, until Sept. 15. Call 8431541 to 48.

HOME FAIR. Home essentials are on sale at Sta. Lucia East Department Store and Home Gallery's annual home fair until Sept. 30. The fair offers up to 50 percent off on furniture and accessories.

CONCERT. National Artists for Music Antonio Molina, Antonino Buenaventura, Felipe Padilla de Leon, Lucio San Pedro, Jovita Fuentes, Andrea Veneracion, Jose Maceda and Lucresia Kasilag will be honored in a concert on Sept. 11, 6 p.m., at UP Abelardo Hall. Call 9296963/9205301 local 4053/4374.

ANNIVERSARY. A night of poetry reading and roving theater performance will highlight the activities slated for the centennial of the late National Artist, poet, journalist and trade union leader Amado Hernandez. The Folk Arts Theater will be the venue of the celebration of his birth anniversary on Sept. 13, 5 p.m.

BAZAAR. Movie personalities are raising funds for the health-care needs of low-income members of the industry by donating items to the ongoing celebrity bazaar at Quezon City Hall grounds.

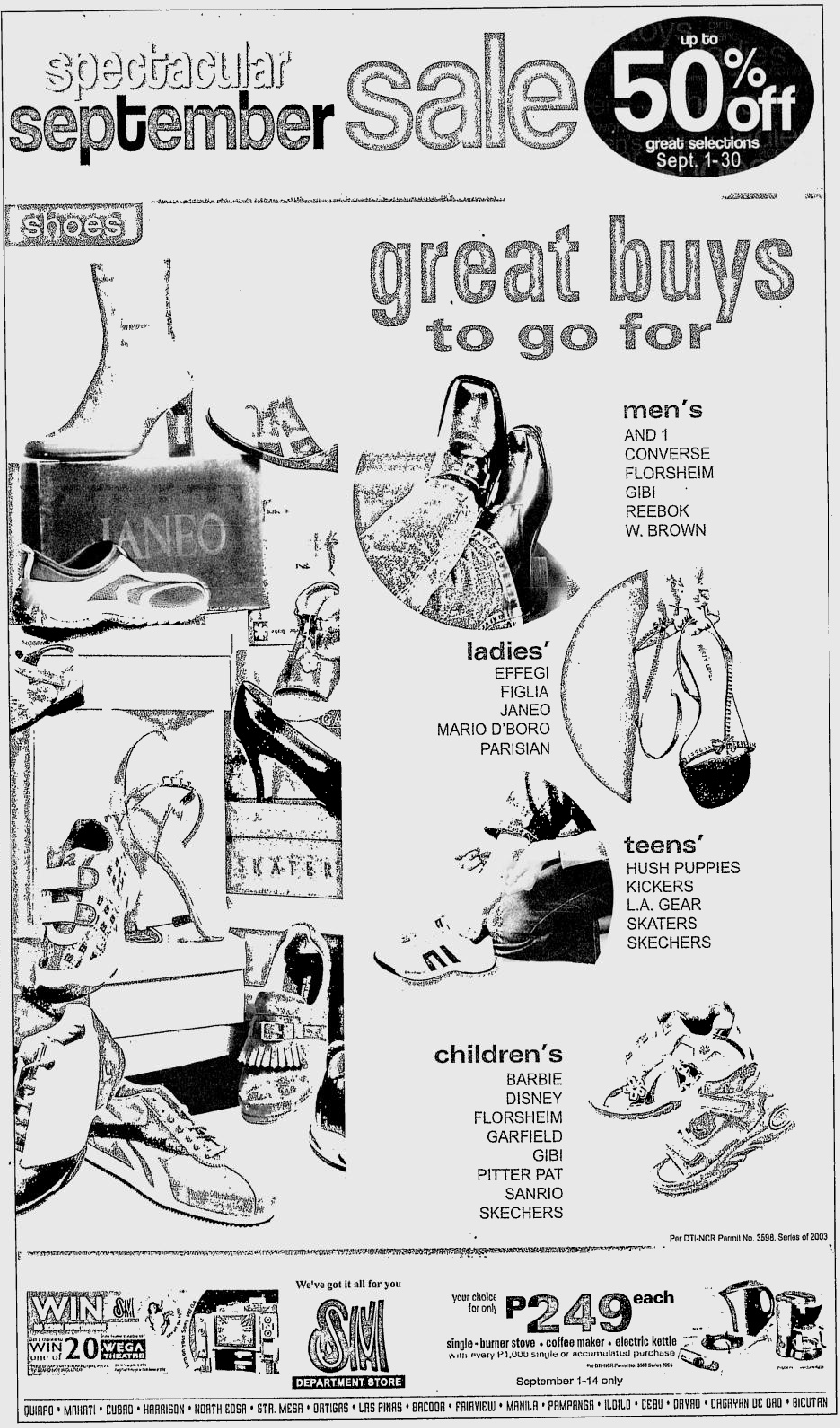
SEMINARS. ExecEdit will hold seminars on Producing Effective Annual Reports Cost-Effectively (Sept. 12) and Corporate Newsletter Publishing (Sept. 25-26). Call 8873797 to 98, fax 8873796 or e-mail execedit@mozcom.com

FORUM. The Highest Vision Foundation will hold a spirituality forum on Sept. 12, 6 p.m., at PowerBooks Arnaiz Avenue, Makati. Admission is free. Call Luwee Francia at 8424904/0917-4424573 or Nikie Lingad, 0917-5298678.

SEMINAR. The Philippine Librarians Association (PLAI) will hold a three-day seminar on Library Philosophies, Practices and Challenges of the 2lst Century (Part 2), Sept. 18-20, at Cooyesan Hotel Plaza, Naguilian cor. Asin Road, Baguio City. Call Ma. Fe Robles, 3115966; Linda Tayona, 3027717; Lily Echiverri, 9292180; Fe Abelardo, 5250926.

SEMINARS. Businessmaker Academy will hold a series of seminars on home-based business ventures. These include: Accessorize Your Way With Beads, Sept. 6 and 19; A Step-by-Step Guide to Business Ownership, Sept. 6 and 19; Achieving Wealth Through Franchising, Sept. 12; Flower Fun for Special Occasions, Sept. 13; Fun Balloon Arrangements for Special Events, Parties and Gifts, Sept. 20; and Snap Away and Take Terrific Photos, Sept. 26.

SEMINARS. CFS Continental Technology is offering the following seminars this month: Purchasing Management (today, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.), Supervisory Skills That Work (Sept. 11, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.), Handling Stress and Pressure At Work (Sept. 18, 9 a.m.-12 nn), Etiquette For Marketing Executives (Sept. 18, 1-5 p.m.), Financial Planning With Results (Sept. 19, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.), Time Management (Sept. 25, 9 a.m.-12 nn), Developing Excellent Communication Skills (Sept. 25, 1-5 p.m.), Basic Bookkeeping (Sept. 27, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.). Call 8697960, 8232358 or 8234825.



spectacular september sale
up to 50% off
great selections
Sept. 1-30

shoes

great buys to go for

men's
AND 1
CONVERSE
FLORSHEIM
GIBI
REEBOK
W. BROWN

ladies'
EFFEGI
FIGLIA
JANEO
MARIO D'BORO
PARISIAN

teens'
HUSH PUPPIES
KICKERS
L.A. GEAR
SKATERS
SKECHERS

children's
BARBIE
DISNEY
FLORSHEIM
GARFIELD
GIBI
PITTER PAT
SANRIO
SKECHERS

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3598, Series of 2003

WIN SM
Get a chance to WIN one of 20 WEGA THEATRE

We've got it all for you
SM DEPARTMENT STORE

your choice for only P249 each
single-burner stove • coffee maker • electric kettle
with every P1,000 single or accumulated purchase
September 1-14 only

QUIAPO • MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA • ORTIGAS • LAS PINAS • BACOOR • FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA • ILOILO • CEBU • DAVAO • CAGAYAN DE ORO • BICUTAN

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Accessorizing with style

APPLES' PICKINGS

Apples Aberin-Sadhwani

IF I WEAR an ethnic necklace or one of those semi-precious pieces that are so in vogue, what kind of earrings should I wear? Also, what kind of earrings will fit someone who wears glasses? Are hoops and dangling/chandelier ones a no-no?

Accessorizing can be a great way of expressing your personality and adding a bit of panache to an otherwise bland, generic wardrobe. But to do it effectively, you must remember to keep things minimal.

This doesn't mean you can't wear major pieces that are big and bold. It just means that you should avoid wearing too many things that do not create a harmonious appearance. Just as it is unflattering to pile on trend after trend, it is also not wise to wear several key pieces that may clash.

Whether you are wearing an ethnic-inspired neckpiece or a choker of semi-precious stones, you should always make it a point to don simple, unobtrusive stud earrings. Tiny diamond, gold or pearl studs will do, depending on what best complements your necklace.

For example, if you are wearing an ethnic mother-of-pearl necklace, match it with small pearl or diamond studs. Or when donning a citrine choker with a yellow gold clasp, wear a pair of yellow gold studs. Tiny diamond studs go with practically anything, so those would be a safe choice.

Whenever I wear a particularly bold neckpiece, I try not to wear earrings so that I create a focal point. In fact, the more elaborate the necklace, the better to avoid wearing other accessories. However, some people feel that they must wear earrings at all times. So, it will ultimately depend on your personality and preference. Just remember that your neckpiece and earrings do not have to match perfectly. They just have to complement and create a graceful symmetry.

STRANDS of assorted shaped crystals on omega chain

FOUR-STRAND cherry red bead necklace

PHOTOS: RUDY ESPERAS
ACCESSORIES: TWEETIE DE LEON-GONZALEZ

The same rules apply when choosing earrings to match your eyeglasses: keep things minimal and complementary. Stay away from chandelier earrings that will not go well with your glasses. Your goal is to present a clean, unfettered, effortless appearance and not a busy, confusing mess. Wearing your glasses with huge drop earrings will only create distractions and draw attention away from your best features.

Small hoop earrings may be more appropriate, but make sure you try them on for size. Again, it's important to keep your earrings understated.

I also wear glasses and I noticed that it is more flattering to wear small studs. So, your best bets are pearl, gold or diamond studs. And if you must wear your fashionable chandeliers or J.Lo-like hoops, please do away with the glasses and wear your trusty contact lenses, instead.

What cut of clothes should I wear with a choker, lariát or a rope of pearls ala 1920's flapper? I want to start wearing some of my accessories but I don't know how. Help!

There are many different styles of clothes that you can wear with your accessories. Your choker, for instance, can be worn with most anything. For weekends, it's the perfect accessory to dress up a casual fitted T-shirt and jeans. For work, it can lend a touch of style to a typical collared polo shirt or a classic suit. And for evenings out, it's great for personalizing a basic but sexy tube top.

A choker can be worn with most any neckline. Just make sure it does not shorten the appearance of your neck. In which case, it is best worn with deep necklines or tube tops.

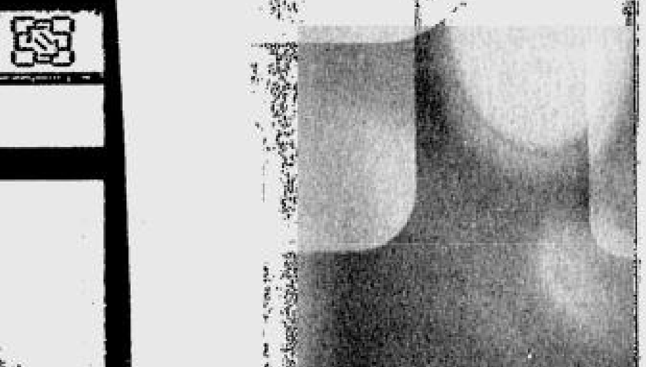
A lariat is also best worn with open necklines like a collared polo shirt, deep V or round-neck shirts and a tube top. Although I've seen lariats matched effectively with closed-neck tops such as round or boat neck tee, you must consider the proportion you are creating. If this look cuts you in half and shortens your appearance, then it is safer to stick to open necklines.

A stylish rope of pearls can dress up an outfit and add loads of oomph. You can also wear it with anything in your closet. Think Karl Lagerfeld's Chanel and you can't go wrong. Wear it with a tweedy jacket, fitted tee and jeans, if you want to look a bit edgy. For a more classic slant, try it with a streamlined shift dress that is reminiscent of style icon Audrey Hepburn. And if you want to get more literal, wear it with a flapper-inspired dress for a special occasion.

The possibilities are endless. As I always stress, it all depends on your personal style. So, express yourself through the use of your accessories and create a look that's memorable and distinctly you.

E-mail the author at apsadvice@hotmail.com

Transform your celfone into
The Ultimate Karaoke Machine!
Menu
its just emotions, taking me over



Enjoy the sing-sational pleasures the new SMART Music Link Karaoke brings!

Because you made our F4 selection such a huge hit, we're giving you more songs to sing from F4 and other vocal artists like Beyoncé, Daniel Bedingfield, Regine Velasquez, and the Sex Bomb Girls! Plus, get a chance to win 5 Magic Sing Videoke Microphones! Earn 50 raffle entries for every karaoke song download.

So, hit the high notes and get in tune with the 1st and only celfone karaoke service in the country!

To get started:

Key in **K** and send to **209**

To download via WAP:

Go to the SMART WAP Site at http://wap.smart.com.ph Then click on "New".

Albums available in CDs and cassettes in leading record bars nationwide!

Sing along to these songs!

Song	Keyword
Can't Help Falling In Love - *F4*	FALLINGINLUV
Season Of Fireworks - *F4*	FIREWORKS
Emotion - *Beyoncé Knowles*	EMOTION
If You're Not The One - *Daniel Bedingfield*	IFURNOTD1
Kailangan Ko'y Ikaw - *Regine Velasquez*	KAILANGAN
Hanggang Ngayon - *Regine Velasquez*	HANGGANGAYON
Spaghetti Song - *Sex Bomb Girls*	SPAGETISONG

Note: Karaoke song download includes song, artist image and moving lyrics.
Karaoke song cannot be used as a ringtone. Only one karaoke song per download.
Initially available to Nokia 7650/3650 and Sony Ericsson P800 units.
Make sure your phone has at least 300KB of free memory space before downloading the application.
P 30.00 per download/song. All text messages cost P 2.50. Promo period: September 1-30, 2003.

Smart Music Link Karaoke. It's truly sing-sational!

In cooperation with:
Sony Music
BMG

Powered by:

SMART Simply Amazing!
MUSIC LINK

Also open to Talk'N Text and Addict Mobile subscribers.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3704, Series of 2003.

Fragrance evokes serene grandeur of world's tallest mountain

CREED, the world-famous French fragrance house, unveils its latest scent called Himalaya.

One of the few remaining perfumeries that isn't touched by modern marketing, Creed remains true to its 1760 roots as France's fragrance elder.

Much of its renown as the perfumery for royalty rests with its 1760 Royal English Leather, a perfume specially blended for King George III, as well as the heavenly Citrus Bigarrade, the Duke of Windsor's fragrance of choice in the early '40s.

This time, the Himalaya scent is meant to mirror the divine balance of the world's tallest mountain range. The lightly cleansing scents of mandarin and grapefruit merge with the robustness of sandalwood, cedar, amber, pepper and Tonka musk as the calming base for the olfactory interplay of cool and warmth, masculinity and femininity, and a lot of other contradictions.

Himalaya is exclusively available at Wish, located at the Shangri-La Shopping Arcade of the Makati Shangri-La Hotel.

LIFESTYLE

GIRL next door Verns Buckley was a top 10 finalist in the recent Supermodel of the World search.

The supermodel comes home

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Chito Vecina

EVEN now model Verns Buckley can't believe she landed in the top 10 in last year's Supermodel of the World search held in the Dominican Republic.

Fresh from a six-month modeling stint in the United States, where she's represented by the prestigious Ford Modeling Agency, the Filipino-British beauty is back in town for a month-long vacation.

In a field of 56 international beauties, Verns was the only Asian who made it to the short list.

Her strong presence on the Supermodel website made friends and the people from her mother

THE SUPERMODEL/ D4

hhav Yeuw!

ACCENTUATE

Colors and Hi-lites by

GOING STRAIGHT SALON

Hair Straightening • Color • Treatment • Care

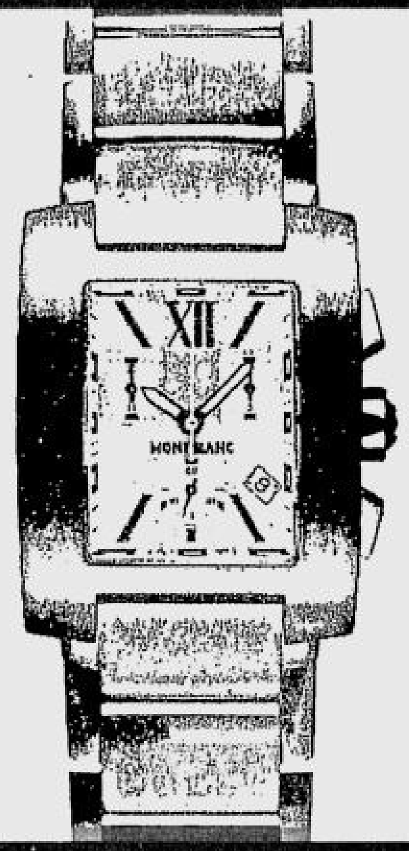
GRAND CENTRAL / 363-6689 • ROBINSON'S PLACE BACOLOD CITY (034) 441-1064 • ROBINSON'S PLACE MANILA / 536-5031 • ROBINSON'S GALLERIA / 632-7322 • MAKATI CINEMA SQUARE 844-2129 • 811-1439 • SM CENTERPOINT / 716-1549 • SM CITY BACOOR / (046) 970-4852 • SM CITY MANILA / 400-5623 • SM NORTH EDSA / 920-3367 • SM FAIRVIEW / 935-7433 • SM MEGAMALL / 633-7048 • SM BICUTAN / 777-9159 • SM PAMPANGA / (045) 961-2125 • SM SOUTHMALL / 805-9611 • SM SUPER CENTER SUCAT / 826-8841 • SM DAVAO / (082) 297-1173 • SM ILOILO / (033) 320-7992 • STA. LUCIA / 681-7437 • CIRCLE C CENTER, CONGRESSIONAL AVE., QC / 928-1473 • PRINCE PLAZA II BLDG., GREENBELT / 893-1716 • GLORIETTA 2, CLUB FUN, AYALA CENTER / 817-1177 • FESTIVAL MALL, ALABANG / 775-0116

Now Open! Going Straight Tutuban

Soon to Open at Robinson's Lipa, SM Lucena, SM Marilao and SM Baguio

Avail of COLORS & HI-LITES PACKAGES *(with Hot Oil or Hair Treatment)*

MONT BLANC



GEOMETRIC

PROFILE CHRONOGRAPH

THE FIRST MONTBLANC WATCH WITH RECTANGULAR SHAPE. ELEGANT IN STYLE AND MASSIVE IN SIZE WITH A SUBTLE CURVE, A SILVER DIAL, AND A STAINLESS STEEL BRACELET.

Rustan's

Makati (632)8133739 • Shangri-La Plaza (632)6334636 • Alabang Town Center (632)8505532 • Harrison Plaza (632)5211140 • Cubao (632)9112401 and in Montblanc Shops - Rockwell Power Plant Mall (632)8982347 • Robinson's Place Manila

Rustan SUPERMARKETS

Rustan's SUPERMARKET Fresh

Xxpresslane by Rustan SUPERMARKETS

Blossom Dinnerware Set Collection

Blossom Dinnerware Set Completers:

TEAPOT REG. PRICE P 489.00 PROMO PRICE P 379.00

OVAL PLATTER REG. PRICE P 329.00 PROMO PRICE P 259.00

2-PIECE MUGS REG. PRICE P 149.00 PROMO PRICE P 99.00

SALT & PEPPER SHAKERS REG. PRICE P 199.00 PROMO PRICE P 159.00

SUGAR & CREAMER SET REG. PRICE P 359.00 PROMO PRICE P 299.00

VEGETABLE BOWL REG. PRICE P 259.00 PROMO PRICE P 199.00

Spend P200 and receive one (1) Bonus Stamp. Collect 15 Bonus Stamps to avail any one of the featured Blossom Dinnerware Set Collection items at up to 64% OFF!

You can avail of this promo at all Rustan Supermarket branches, Xxpress Lane and Rustan's Supermarket Fresh outlets up to 60 days after the end of the promo period.

5-Piece Blossom Dinnerware Set REG. PRICE ~~P 329.00~~ PROMO PRICE P 119.00

SAVE UP TO 64%

PARTICIPATING BRANCHES:
MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON PLAZA • SHANGRI-LA PLAZA • ROCKWELL • KATIPUNAN • MARIKINA • FAIRVIEW • ALI MALL • FARMER'S PLAZA • STAR MALL • BONI • CEBU • MERCEDEZ-PASIG • SAN ANTONIO, FORBES PARK • AYALA ALABANG • LIBERTAD • EDSA-TAFT • STA. ROSA , LAGUNA • TAYTAY • ZABARTE, NOVALICHES • MAGALLANES

Promo Period is from
05 September - 28 November 2003
See flyers and posters for details.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2327 Series of 2002

www.rustans.com

Get an additional Bonus Stamp for every P50 purchase of any of these products: Tide Joy Safeguard Pantene Pampers

Lipstick that's twice the glam

THERE are a few things a girl asks for in a lipcolor. Does it feel smooth and weightless on her lips? Does it moisturize and nourish those sensitive pouters? Does the color stay on long?

While recent trends have introduced a variety of new textures and ingredients in lipcolor, none give women the more lip-friendly, long-wearing experience of Avon Color Double Impact Lipcolor.

Known for its pioneering technology and keen understanding of women's needs, Avon gives the world of beauty another breakthrough with its new product, which has a base of lightweight clear gels that deliver pure, full color by using double the colorants of traditional lipsticks.

The result? Pure color and comfort in just one sweep!

For its market launch, Avon Color Double Impact Lipcolor is honoring six accomplished Filipinas with a photo gallery: Singer-actress Agot Isidro, anchorwoman Ces Drilon, model-host Mich Astudillo, makeup artist Lala Flores, image consultant Abbygale Arenas-de Leon and designer Katrina Goulboum.

The six shades of the Avon Color Double Impact Lipcolor were used for the dramatic and elegant images taken by top lensman Jun de Leon.

PHOTOS: JUN DE LEON
MODELS: , MICH ASTUDILLO, ABBYGALE ARENAS-DE LEON, KATRINA GOULBOURN AND AGOT ISIDRO

FOR crooner Agot Isidro, Avon chooses Double Impact lip color in Coral, a striking red shade that enhances her *morena* good looks.

ABBYGALE Arenas' full lips look absolutely luscious in Double Impact lipcolor's flattering Red shade.

FOR talented Katrina Goulbourn's flawless *mestiza* features, Avon Color Double Impact lipcolor in Rose shade is the perfect complement.

MICH Astudillo's lips are a stunner with Double Impact lipcolor Bronzette, a shade that's perfect for the willowy model's skin tone.

AVON Color Double Impact Lipcolor

Early Christmas sale on kiddie stuff

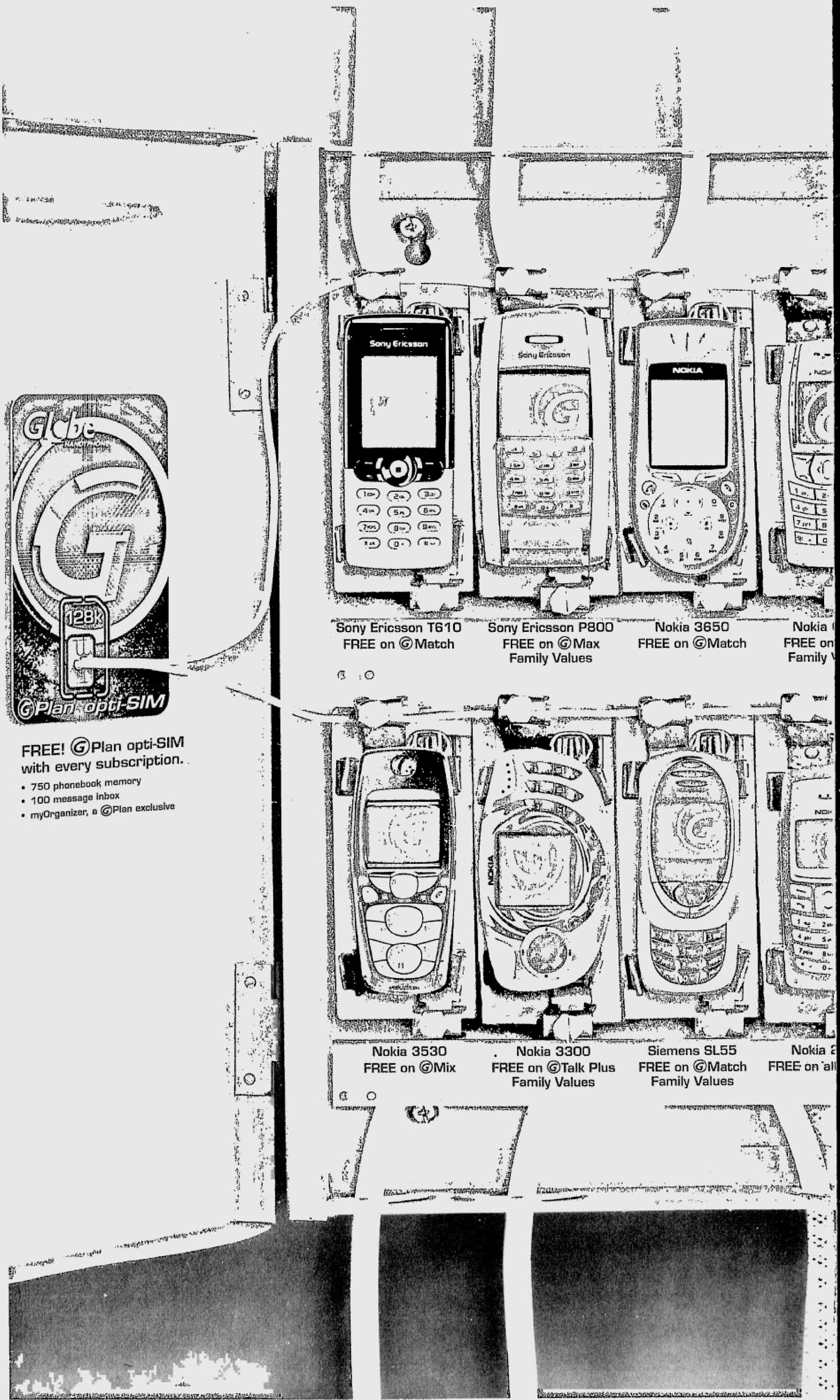
CHRISTMAS may be months away, but you can start your holiday shopping for infants and toddlers as Robinsons Department Store (RDS) holds its annual "Baby Fair" from Sept. 1-30.

Strollers, playpens and other baby items are available at up to 50 percent discount.

Kids will have a chance to meet the mascot Moose Gearif when they go shopping with their parents at RDS Nepomall and RDS Starmills Pampanga on Sept. 6 and at RDS Metro East and RDS Galleria on Sept. 13.

Magic shows by Pengo are scheduled on Sept. 13 at RDS Metropolis, Sept. 14 at RDS Ermita, Sept. 20 at RDS Metro East, and Sept. 21 at RDS Galleria. All shows will start at 3 p.m.

For every P200 purchase, a customer gets the chance to win one of 10 Smoby caterpillar cars. And every P300 purchase entitles customers to a free gift from Nestlé, Johnson & Johnson and others.



FREE! ⓖPlan opti-SIM with every subscription.
- 750 phonebook memory
- 100 message inbox
- myOrganizer, a ⓖPlan exclusive

Sony Ericsson T610
FREE on ⓖMatch

Sony Ericsson P800
FREE on ⓖMax
Family Values

Nokia 3650
FREE on ⓖMatch

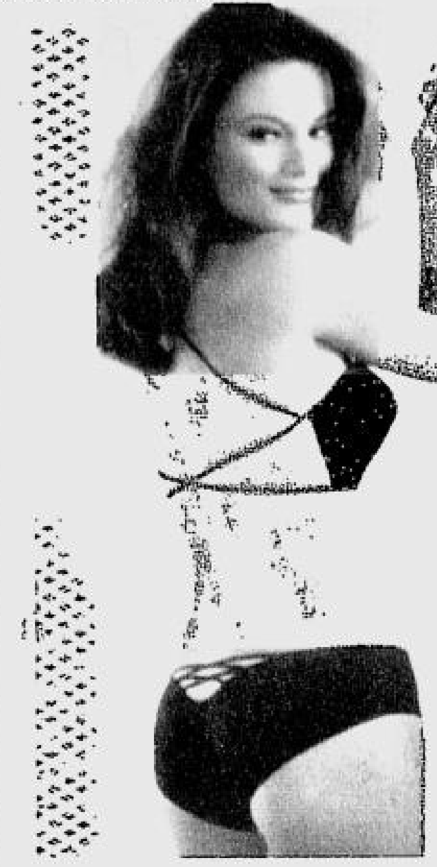
Nokia
FREE on
Family

Nokia 3530
FREE on ⓖMix

Nokia 3300
FREE on ⓖTalk Plus
Family Values

Siemens SL55
FREE on ⓖMatch
Family Values

Nokia
FREE on all



Feel triumphant with the right innerwear

TRIUMPH International's new brassiere—The Bare Must-Have!—is the one bra you simply must own to feel confident and at the peak of your womanhood.

Made of soft, two-way stretch fabric with microfiber touch that guarantees extra softness and absolute comfort, the versatile bra gives a seamless look.

It allows you to wear today's fashions with confidence and style. You can wear off-the-shoulder tops, bare backs, sheer fabrics and ultra feminine dresses with this foundation garment that comes in two styles.

Triumph International's Bare Must-Have with Plastic Straps has invisible shoulder straps and invisible back part that let you be as daring as you wish without losing support. The soft, two-way stretch fabric conforms to your shape and holds you together. The look is smooth and seamless.

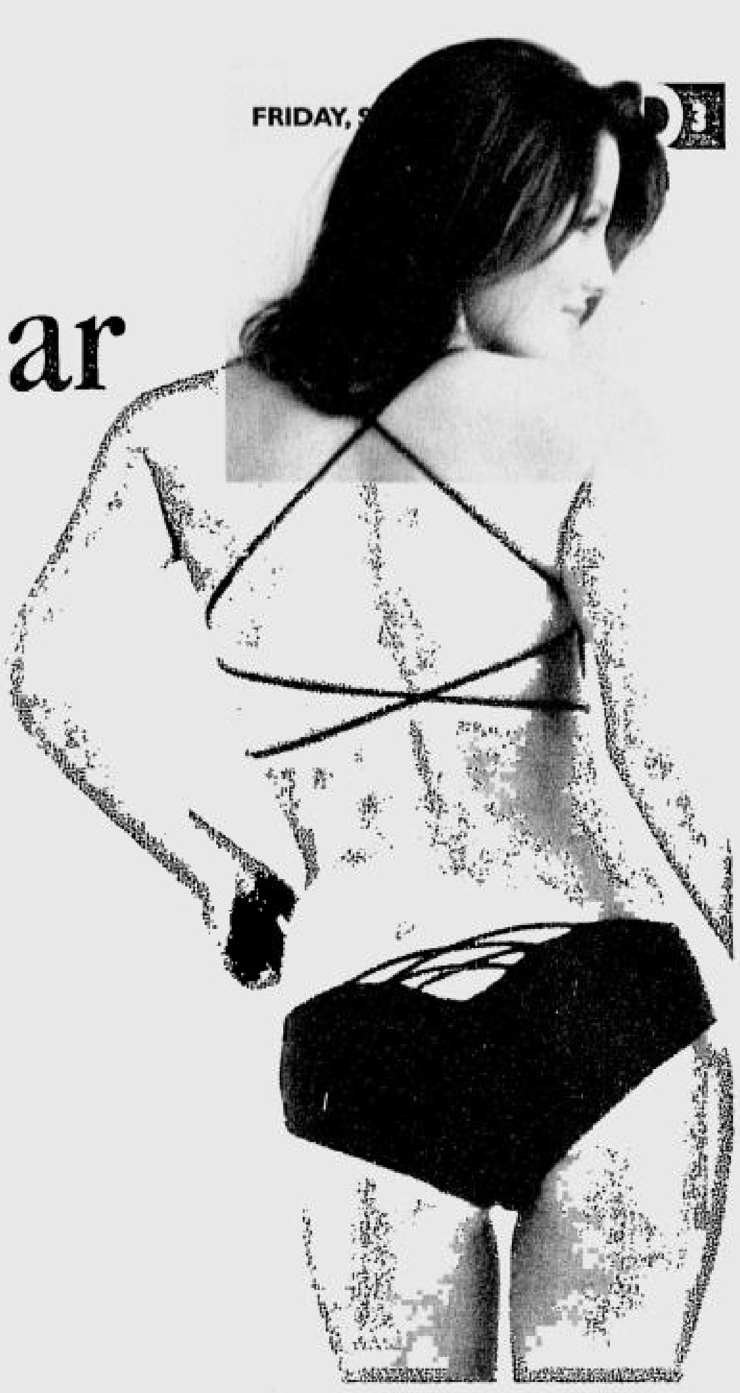
Triumph International's Bare Must-Have with Fun Straps is an utterly sexy bra with a low, low back and comes with detachable straps that you can wear in so many ways. Make an X with them on your back, or tie them up in ribbons. Weave them together, or tie them up high. Show them off or keep them hidden.

Both bras are available in black and skin tones.

The Bare Must-Have with Plastic Straps comes with matching panties in two styles: G-Strings, uniquely designed with plastic strings; and Mini Style, made with plastic side panels.

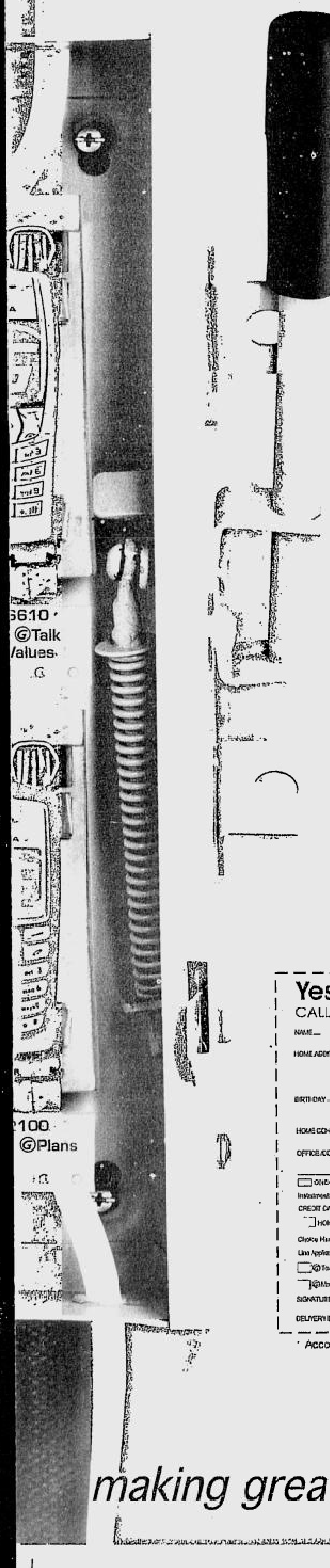
The Bare Must-Have with Fun Straps has two cool and daring styles of matching panties: Hipster with a cute heart-shaped peek-a-boo and G-Strings if you want to go sexy all the way.

The new Triumph bras are available in leading department stores nationwide.



THE BARE Must-Have with Fun Straps that are detachable and can be worn in so many ways.

INVISIBLE shoulder straps and back part dare you to be as daring as you wish.



power up ⓖ

Get Bigger and Better Deals from Globe!

The best new phones FREE on a ⓖPlan super-charged with a FREE ⓖPlan opti-SIM!

Just go to The Hub or any Globe Business Center if you are a new subscriber, a switcher, or would like to get a second line under Family Values.

So subscribe to a ⓖPlan now!

How to subscribe: Bring valid ID, proof of billing address and financial documents. For switchers, present 2 paid non-Globe bills for the last 4 months together with the old GSM SIM.

Conditions: Subject to a two-year subscription lock. Closure of plan under 24 months is subject to a termination fee of ₱10,000 per line, or handset price, whichever is higher.

Yes! I want my Globe Handyphone delivered to me FREE!
CALL 751-8888 OR FAX TO 739-9999.

NAME ____ Last Name ____ First Name ____ Middle Name
HOME ADDRESS ____ No. ____ Street ____ Barangay
____ City ____ Zip Code
BIRTHDAY ____ mm/dd/yy SPOUSE NAME ____
HOME CONTACT NO. ____ MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME ____
OFFICE/COMPANY NAME ____
BUSINESS ADDRESS ____ No. ____ Street
____ Barangay
____ City ____ Zip Code
BUSINESS TEL NO. ____
PREFERRED BILLING ADDRESS ☐ HOME ☐ OFFICE
CREDIT CARD NAME ☐ BPI ☐ Citibank ☐ Diners Club ☐ Equitable ☐ Unicard ☐ Standard Chartered
CREDIT CARD NO. ____
EXPIRY DATE ____ 3 Digits at the Back of Card ____
☐ ONE-TIME PAYMENT ☐ INSTALLMENT
Installment Term ☐ 3 ☐ 6 ☐ 9 ☐ 12 months
CREDIT CARD BILLING ADDRESS
☐ HOME ☐ OFFICE ☐ OTHERS ____
Choice Handset ____
Line Application Plan
☐ ⓖText Plan ☐ ⓖTalk Plan ☐ ⓖMatch Plan ☐ Platinum Plan
☐ ⓖMix Plan ☐ ⓖTalk Plus Plan ☐ ⓖMax Plan
SIGNATURE ____
DELIVERY DATE / TIME ____

	ⓖText	ⓖMix	ⓖTalk	ⓖTalk Plus	ⓖMatch	ⓖMax	Platinum
MSF*	₱500	₱800	₱1,200	₱1,800	₱2,500	₱3,500	₱5,000
Free Text	500	350	350	450	650	650	650
Free Mins.	20	100	210	350	500	750	1,100

*Inclusive of VAT and CERA

* Accomplish this form and fax it to us together with the application requirements and a photocopy of your credit card showing both sides.
Promo period: Aug. 31 to Sept. 30, 2003. See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2461, Series of 2003.

making great things possible

Globe HANDYPHONE

Casual wear store now franchising outside Metro Manila

WITH 17 outlets nationwide, Freeway is now open for franchising outside Metro Manila. With its market success in the past years and increasing demand for the store to open in provincial outlets, Freeway is now ready to fly.

Freeway provides the best training in customer service, POS and merchandise sourcing, inventory management, sales recording and turnover.

Its low-cost investment franchise program also covers sales training and product planning as well as the costs for architectural planning, store construction and extensive pre- and post-launch marketing.

Freeway now extends all the way to Mindanao. Call 5250862 or 3030750 local 122.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

CHAMELEON. Sometimes mistaken for a Latina, Vern can also pass off as an Indian in regional shoots. With the right makeup and styling, Verns can easily shift from wide-eyed teenager to sophisticated woman—truly a model's model.

The supermodel comes home

GETTING PHYSICAL. She was given a personal trainer as one of her fringe benefits as a Ford model. By watching her diet and going to the gym regularly, she's now leaner and more toned than ever.

Verns Buckley surprised even herself when she shone in last year's Supermodel of the World search, but it was only the beginning

From page D1

agency, Cal Carrie's International Models Philippines, confident of Verns' chances. (Cal Carrie's holds the exclusive franchise for Supermodel of the World-Philippines.)

Although she lost the title to a German model, Verns, who describes herself as one of the "goofy" ones, made her mark among fellow contestants as well as key people from the agency. If there had been an award for Miss Congeniality she would have won it hands down.

"Unlike some of the girls, I was out there on my own," says Verns, looking fresh and alert despite the 22-hour flight from the US the night before. "I had to make friends with everybody."

Winsome

Such wit and spunk eventually paid off. In less than two months, the winsome 19-year-old got a call from Ford asking her to drop everything and fly immediately to Miami where modeling work awaited her.

"Because of the sheer number of models they regularly come across, Ford [people] rarely call back," says good friend Chere Du, one of Cal Carrie's senior bookers. "The few times they did, they called for Melanie Marquez, Gemith Gemparo and now Verns."

And what a timely call it was. After doing countless fashion shows and regional ads for companies like Pantene, Coke, Mandarin Oriental and Johnson & Johnson, Verns had felt it was time for her to take her modeling career to the "next level."

MISS CONGENIALITY. Despite gaining a wealth of friends and experience from joining the Supermodel search, Verns has remained "goofy" and self-effacing. Although she speaks English with a quaint American twang, she still thinks and dreams in Cebuano.

MIRROR, MIRROR. Her heart belongs to no one, or so she claims. She can't allow any form of distraction—boys included—to get in the way of her career. For this shot at Privé, Geoff Simpson did Verns' hair in a chignon.

At 5'8", her height is pretty average by world standards. Nor is she as svelte or as toned as most foreign models who do ramp shows & print poses for, say, Sports Illustrated. Yet there's a certain quality in her chameleon-like face that Ford has found interesting and "bookable."

She credits her portfolio of print, video ads and photo shoots—what she calls her "power book" —for helping boost her chances in the US. Through her body of work, people at Ford were able to see her range and how she registers on camera.

With the right styling, Verns she can easily shift from a wide-eyed ingénue to a sophisticated mannequin, from an Asian with a mix of Malay, Indian and Caucasian blood to a smoldering Latina.

Chubby

It was a Cebu-based designer who convinced the then dark, chubby Verns to give modeling a try. Joey Espino, president of Cal Carrie's Philippines, then chanced upon her during one of his casting trips to Cebu. Seeing Vern's potentials, Espino lost no time in taking her under his wings.

As soon as she realized she couldn't model and study at the same time, Verns took a leave from school two years into a pre-med course. Her dream of becoming a doctor will have to wait for now.

With Cal Carrie's blessings, she flew to Miami in early February, at the height of the US casting season. After doing a series of "go-sees" arranged by Ford, Verns eventually made it as one of the models for Jennifer Lopez's swimwear line. She also did several photo shoots for catalogs and magazines, one of which was shot in the Everglades.

It was in Chicago, however, where Verns stayed and worked the longest. Among the highlights of her stay there were ramp shows and photo shoots for such big names as Nordstrom, Sears and Marshall Fields. She even modeled clothes during a segment of "Oprah."

Her stint in Chicago allowed her to travel to other cities in the Midwest. While fending for herself is nothing new to Verns, the loneliness of being away from family and friends soon caught up with her. Since her Filipino mom, who's now separated from her British dad, also travels a lot, she hasn't seen her for almost two years now.

"I miss my house, my siblings, my dogs and, of course, my mom," she says. "I never realized how I took people like her for granted until I was away from home."

And has she left her heart in Chicago, where she plans to return?

"I have my heart right here in my chest," she says with a girlish giggle. "I've had the opportunity to meet a lot of good-looking people, but I can't be distracted just yet."

Well, self-imposed rules are made to be broken, right? Perhaps, this time around Verns Buckley will allow herself a few heartfelt distractions.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph

HAIR: GEOFF SIMPSON,
PRIVÉ, FRASER PLACE
JOCEL LANGREO, PIANDRE, GREENBELT
MAKEUP: GRACE LANGREO, PIANDRE, SAN JUAN
MODEL: VERNS BUCKLEY, CAL CARRIE'S PHILIPPINES (8440350)
VENUE: FRASER PLACE, MAKATI
SPECIAL THANKS TO BOOTS MOYER

FROM fresh-faced to glamorous to "shameless": The many faces of Verns Buckley

---

Beauty booty for August

MAKEOVER 911

Kinny Salas

THERE was a dead period for beauty product launches at the height of the SARS scare. But as soon as it died down, beauty events flooded my schedule with a vengeance.

The month of August alone was a whirl of beauty parties, luncheons, and foreign visitors introducing their star products. Here are some highlights:

ANGEL

Pond's. Its Rockwell launch showed that facials need not cost an arm and a leg, and it introduced soothing and cooling facial washes that suited every skin type.

Pond's cold cream jars were dunked on basins of icy water and massaged on our faces. My favorite facial washes were the cleanser and toner in one and the oil-removing scrub. These have a relaxing, clean scent that refreshes the skin without drying.

As for heavy makeup, Pond's cold cream is still the most reasonably priced all-in-one remover. Those on a budget should go for it.

Angel by Thierry Mugler. This sexy scent has quite a following. Its famous star-shaped bottle has graced the dressing tables of many stylish women here and abroad.

Here's good news: You can now refill those bottles via a cologne dispenser at designated perfume counters in Rustan's department store. This offer is good for both Angel for women and Amen for men.

La Prairie's Cellular Anti-Wrinkle Firming Serum. At P8,500 per 30 ml, this handy "Botox in a bottle" has become a bestseller. Its international version is patronized by Hollywood celebrities, with—would you believe?—gorgeous Nicole Kidman reportedly even offering to be a spokesperson.

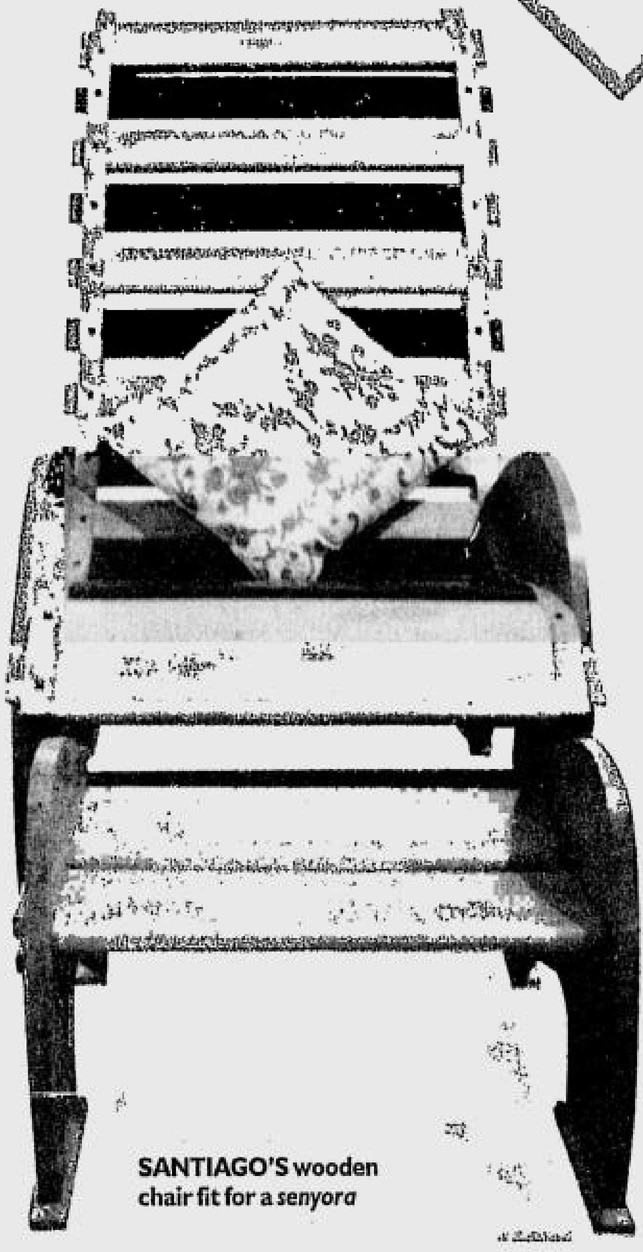
Those who are scared of needles or wish to extend their Botox injection's life span swear by this serum, which is designed for women in their mid-30s who are beginning to notice significant loss in skin elasticity. It's available exclusively at Rustan's.

POND'S introduces facial washes for every skin type.

Streetscape
BOSSA
NOVA
NIGHTS
•Blue Note Funk, Friday, Sept. 5
•Sound, Saturday, Sept. 6

Gising na!

Home LifeStyle


SANTIAGO'S wooden chair fit for a *senyora*

Ernest Santiago goes moonlighting

Kish presents furniture from found wooden objects by the former couturier

Story on page E3

2 LIVE

Cowboy Grill

LAS PIÑAS ☎ 801.7644	THINKERS/JOGRAD MR. ROXY	NO ENTRANCE FEE
MABINI ☎ 525.1474	MISSMO PHRYGIAN/HUDYAT	NO ENTRANCE FEE
MALATE ☎ 521.8143	MUSIC CIRCUIT MEN OPPOSE	NO ENTRANCE FEE
NOVALICHES ☎ 936.9757	BLAKDYAK HEADWORKZ/STREETLIFE	I-AXE EVERY TUESDAY OF SEPT. GASHULA EVERY THURSDAY OF SEPT.
BIÑAN ☎ (049)511.7268	PRYZM EMMANUELLE	I-AXE EVERY MONDAY OF SEPT.
TIA MARIA'S	TIA MARIA'S	TIA MARIA'S
JUPITER ☎ 890.4735	ENIGMA FIRST SIGHT	NO ENTRANCE FEE
REMEDIOS ☎ 522.0429	VERSE 2 P R P	NO ENTRANCE FEE
COCO CABANA	ACOUSTIC NITES W/ LUCID	8465 KALAYAAN AVE. (NEAR ROCKWELL) MAKATI 0927-3048991 ☎ 896.8763
Partyplace SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA ☎ (045)961.3360	JIMMY BONDOC AN ACOUSTIC CONCERT	OCT.10-PAOLO SANTOS
FOREST	ORIGIN/PART E EVA (ACOUSTIC) T.M. KALAW COR. PARADE ST. LUNETA PARK, MANILA	FREE PULUTAN EVERY 2 PITCHERS OR 5 BOTTLES OF BEER ☎ 400-7435/525-0514

SEPTEMBER 05 FRIDAY

WHAT'S ON at Robinsons

MONSTER RADIO RX93.1

RX CONCERT SERIES

There's a monster celebration at Robinsons Place Manila! Celebrate the anniversary of RX 93.1 with special live performances by the Tribe of Levi and Ms. Arnee Hidalgo. Tune in and party hearty!

ROBINSONS Place MANILA

"I WAKE UP TO THE SCENT OF FRESH PINE...

EVERY SINGLE MORNING."

The crisp pine scent makes the cool air seem all the more refreshing. Lush pine green is everywhere...on the hillsides, along the roads, even in my yard. Then I realize another thing that makes this so great, I'm in a pine estate...the only one south of Manila.

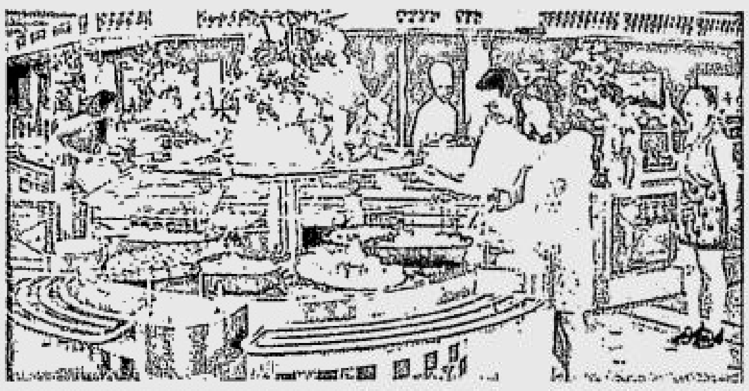
To know more about how life is great at Crosswinds, get in touch with us at 850 6986 and 850 3084. Or email us at mktg@brittany.com.ph.

Be one of the privileged few to see Crosswinds. Come over to Starbucks, Tagaytay on Sunday, September 7, 2003. Motorcade starts at 9 a.m.

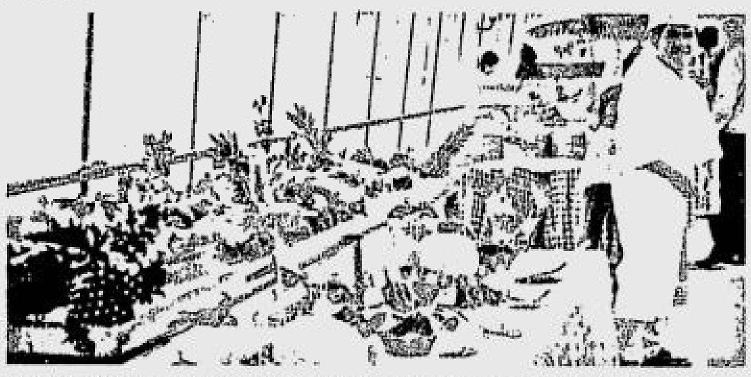
We'll meet you there and take the scenic route to Crosswinds.

CROSSWINDS
Life is great

Brittany
CORPORATION



ONE of my favorite restos in the ship: The Mediterranean Buffet at Deck 13



EXCELLENT poolside barbecue dinner with an endless choice of food, glorious food

DOLPHY and Zsa Zsa Padilla with Nivea market manager Rica King, brand managers Belle Ortega and Ida Dizon, Robinsons' Alice Cayaban, Evelyn Cabo and Malou Torres, the McKenzie dudes Patrick, Sam and Andre Sy, BBDO media director Hermie de Leon and PCX's Jude Ong and wife Sharon, and Famous Voyage idea man Keren Pascual

THE ROBE gang: Robe queen Abby Arenas, robe king Robbie Carmona, funkiest robe Celine Lopez and it's-not-a-robe Millet Mananquil

WINSTON King and sons Gabby and Ryan

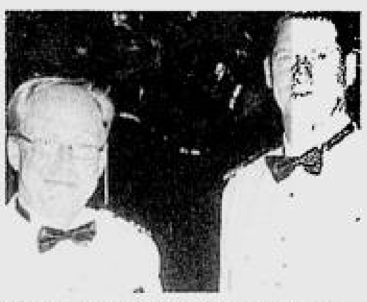
RESTAURANT 12's Elbert Cuenca and wife Liza Ilarde with Collins (center), the ship's entertainment manager

Sailing in the lap of luxury

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache

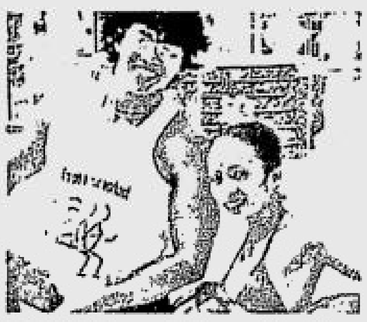
Photos by Alex Van Hagen on Kodak Max



STAFF Captain Staffan Persson and Captain Hakan Suedung

ANDREA Solis and Keren Pascual

HANDSOME Luke Jickain in Adidas top and Celio pants has his arms full of Brazilian beauties



FITNESS gurus Edmond Aguilar and Mitch Felipe

ROBERT Mananquil lazing around the beach in Langkawi

WELL, *palanggas,* he did it again. That super in-demand PR whiz **Keren Pascual** cooked up another of his famous voyage parties. No. 5 this time went cruised on the Star Cruises Asia's world class and luxurious Super Star Virgo. We boarded the ship in Singapore the morning after a night of partying and a yummy dinner—hosted by Keren, natch—at the picturesque Boat Quay.

The first night on board, the party theme was "Come wearing a robe," and robed we showed up at the chichi Bella Vista restaurant on the sixth floor of the ship. Take note, the Super Virgo has not 10 but 13 decks to discover, dahlings.

The title "Queen of Robe" went to gorgeous beauty queen **Abbygale Arenas.** Brilliant fashion director **Robbie Carmona** was "King of Robe." **Celine Lopez** had the "Funkiest Robe" and Star's Life editor, **Millet Mananquil,** won in the "That's not a Robe" category for wearing a black-and-white striped silk caftan by **Ben Farrales** no less. Can you imagine the dean of fashion creating a robe? Well, why not? *Di bala!*

The cruise was beautifully sponsored by world renowned Nivea, which takes good care of the beauty and health of our skin as well as our total wellbeing. Needless to say, having tons of Nivea's newest Body and Soul products, we all felt absolutely beautiful, inside and out.

Fun and gamess

Early next morning, we had a healthy breakfast at the Mediterranean Buffet and Terrace on Deck 12, close to the pool and jacuzzi of the ship. After a yummy meal, it was time for the fun Nivea Scavenger Hunt, which began at the helipad. The red team ended up winners, *palanggas*, and I happened to be a red!

By 1 p.m. we were having a blast at our first stop, the lush island of Langkawi in Malaysia, better known as "The Island of Legends." We set out on different speed boats since there were 51 fabulous personas especially chosen for this trip. We passed an island known as the "Pregnant Woman" along the way.

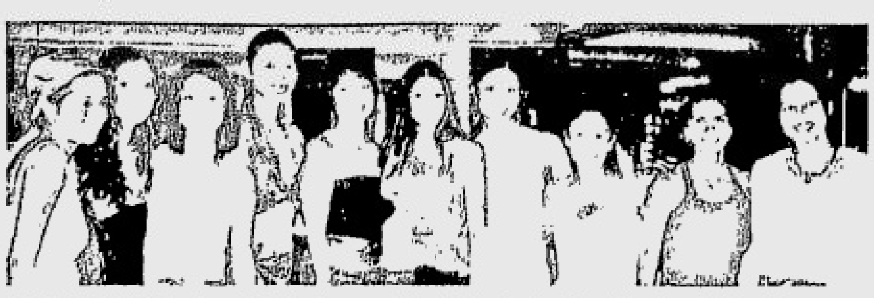
Next we trekked up and down a mountain with monkeys around us to a pristine lake where most members of our group took in the sun, while the rest of us sweated in the shade. The lake is an environmentally protected site and you will not be allowed to swim there if you have any kind of lotion on your body, not even if it's Nivea.

Next, we stopped on another island where we all went fishing without leaving the speed boat. This was really the best part of the day. You could hear screams from the speed boats every time someone caught a fish. In our group, which included Celine, **Ipe Cruz, Louie and Cecile Ysmael,** Cosmopolitan's editor **Myrza Sison,** Preview's **Isabelle "Isha" Andaya,** my roommate on board and palsy-walsy **Pepper Teehankee,** it was only **Chut Cuerva** who caught a big one. Our boatman bagged another one. At least he brought back fish for dinner.

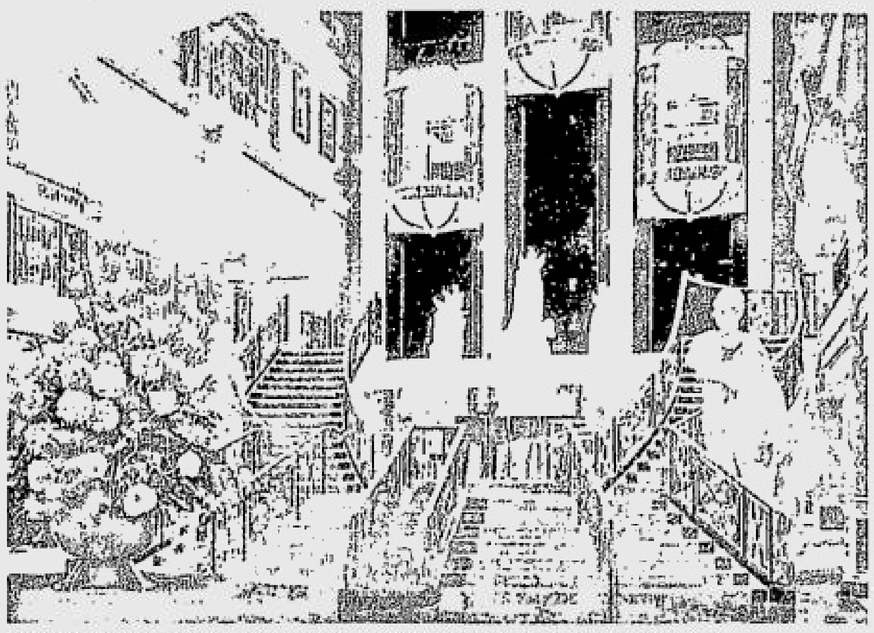
MODEL Luccio Mendez in Bench shirt and pants

Basah Island

IT'S picnic time for our pack of swingers at the gorgeous Baras Basah Island.

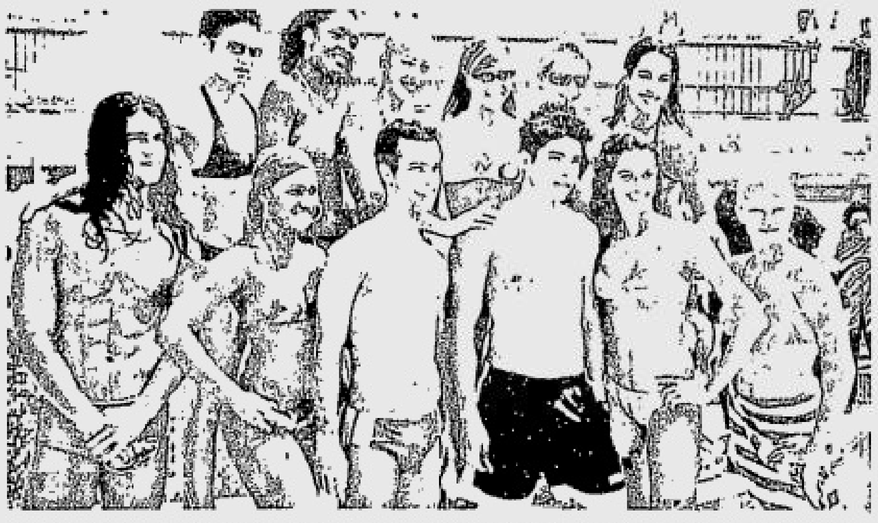


THE SARONG babes: Celine Lopez, Nicolette Belle, Isha Andaya, Abby Arenas, Myrza Sison, Rissa Samson, Raya Mananquil, Jackie Castillejo, Dyan C. Garcia and Liza Ilarde Cuenca



BREATHTAKING Grand Piazza, main lobby of the Super Star Virgo

CLASS photo of the Famous Voyage 5 party during the Robe Night party



BENCH top model Robby Mananquil in his Adidas shorts is the lucky one with the babes of Brazil.

Beach barbecue

Next stop was a buffet barbecue lunch on one of the most pristine beaches I've been to—crystal-clear emerald water with white sand that was finer than our Boracay's. Most members of the group swam or just relaxed under cool pine trees along the cove. It was kinda strange not to see a single coconut tree.

The more daring ones like **Louie Ysmael,** photographer par excellence **Jun de Leon,** McKenzie's Distributors Co.'s young hotshots, super fun **Samuel and Patrick Sy;** husband-and-wife daredevils of PCX **Jude and Sharon Ong;** popular models **Robby and Raya Mananquil,** with their father, big man of the PJI Journal group of publications **Robert Mananquil,** all took to the sky by parasailing. Soon-to-be-groom **Andre Sean Sy,** watched and applauded with all of us who didn't have the guts to get up there.

That evening was "Sarong Night" at the Pavilion Room, another of the 17 superb restaurants on board. Winners were Abbygale (again) and Louis.

Our gang always ended up at our fave 24-hour resto Blue Lagoon, which served Southeast Asian food, including the best Hainanese chicken!

The beauty of this fabulous ship is there are so many restos to choose from. But one of my favorites, aside from the Mediterranean Buffet, was the elegant Taj Indian buffet restaurant. *Naturellement*, you have Chinese fine dining at the Noble House and Italian fusion specialties at the Palazzo. There were also five Japanese restos to choose from, plus several others.

Next stop was the super popular island of Phuket, the largest island in Thailand and better known as the "Pearl of the South." We first went to the spa. Ahh, what a fantastic feeling to have an authentic Thai massage for two whole hours. All of us looked and felt great as we went to visit Wat (temple) Chalong.

All that walking made us ravenous. Knowing this, the ship's crew made sure we had everything to stuff ourselves with on several long buffet tables scattered around the huge Thai Naan Restaurant. With full bellies, it was time to shop till we dropped at the famous Patong Beach.

Back on board, my angel, Star Cruises' top secret weapon, sales executive **Andrea Solis,** took me on a tour of the ship before the captain's grand Gala Dinner. *Moi* discovered that this gorgeous 78,880-ton floating island, cost a cool $380 million, which explained the grandeur of the main lobby. The Italian interiors of the Grand Piazza were awesome.

Since this was a health trip, tall, handsome, muscular fitness guru **Edmond Aguilar** led the workouts at the Sports Health and Recreation Center. One can go jogging on the circuit, play golf or go to the mini driving range, play basketball, or just hang out and chill at the Parthenon pool and jacuzzi, getting a rich golden tan with the help of products from Nivea's extensive Body and Soul line. Nivea's genius mega achiever and market manager **Rica King,** with her gang of Nivea rah! rah! personas, made sure we all had the best of Nivea. Her husband, good looking businessman **Paul King,** and their adorable sons looked like they enjoyed the cruise as much as we did.

No time to be bored

There is endless entertainment on board. Super Star Virgo gives you eight super exciting places to go to every night. You'll also find a Duty Free shop, the always full Casino, and 25 other places to see and experience, including a nightly world class all-Brazilian dance troupe at the Lido.

After cocktails and a scrumptious gala dinner at the Bella Vista, it was karaoke time at Out of Africa. Our group attracted tons of spectators who listened, applauded and sang along with all of us, the Filipino singing ambassadors, dahlings. Raya Mananquil and Pepper Teehankee were the grand winners in terms of discovered singing talents. The two will never starve with their new found talents to fall back on, *palanggas*.

There was also an impromptu search sparked by livewire **Jackie Castillejo** and Keren where men from different countries competed for the title "**Ricky Martin** of the Night" and the guy from India outshimmied all others.

At 6 p.m. the next evening we were back in Singapore after three wonderful nights and four days of cruising. Sailing on any of Star Cruises' mega ships means discovering a world of opulence and ultra-modern luxuries—980 cabins, a passenger capacity of 1,950, a magnum set of stabilizers to insure a smooth cruise, and excellent service and warm hospitality from the staff.

To board your ship from Singapore or Hong Kong, take our very own Philippine Airlines, which always makes sure your trip is smooth, comfortable and enjoyable by providing the best service on board.

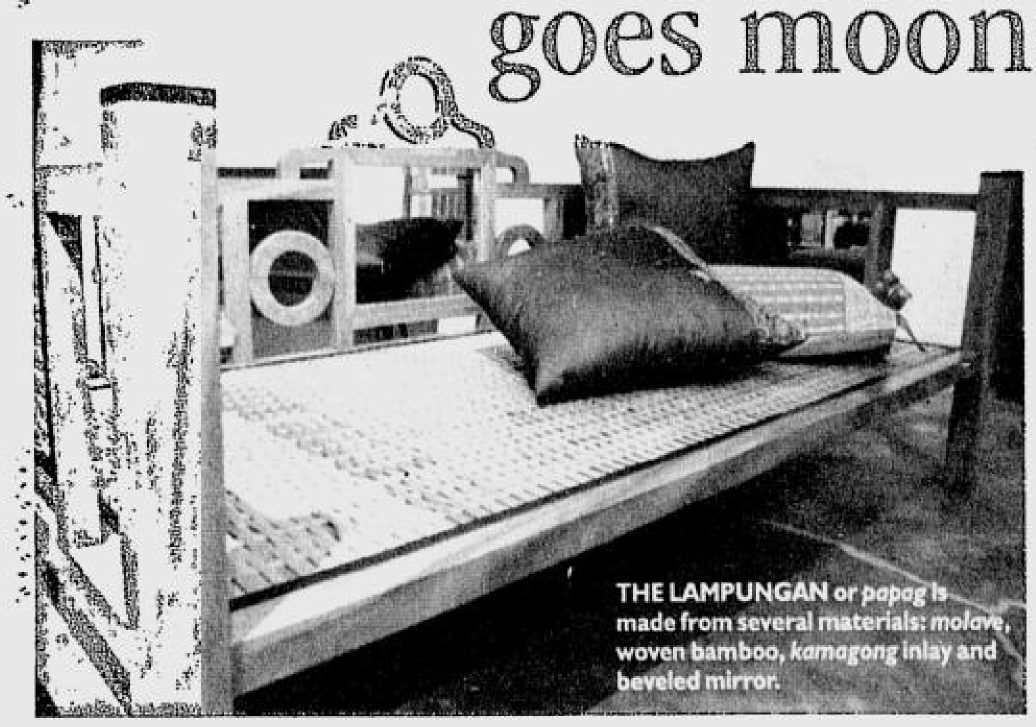
We must also acknowledge the others who helped make this a fabulous trip: Addidas, Bench, Human and my favorite shop, Celio, *naturellement*.

Yes, *palanggas*, when sailing on any of the ships of Star Cruises, you can expect a cruise without boundaries and getting much more than your money's worth.

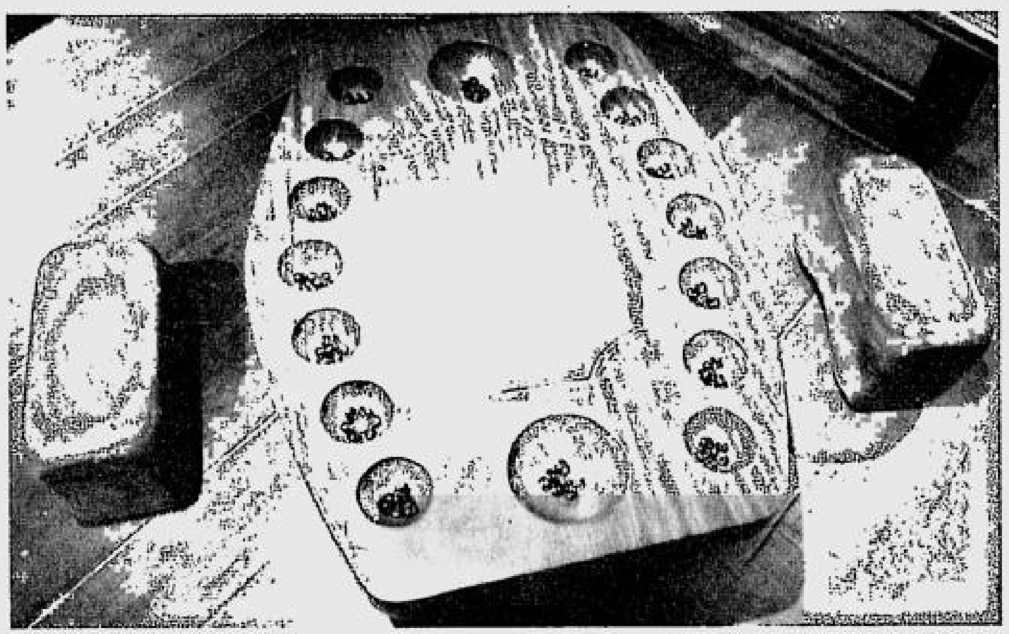
For more info, call Star Cruises at 5215660/ 5268401; fax 5215673 or check out their website.

TWO stars are born: Pepper Teehankee and top model Raya Mananquil found a new career.

Ernest Santiago goes moonlighting



THE LAMPUNGAN or *papag* is made from several materials: *molave*, woven bamboo, *kamagong* inlay and beveled mirror.



THE LARO, a coffee table cum *sungkaan* made of *mapilid*, is wide enough to accommodate snacks and drinks.

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Chito Vecina

FOR its third featured "artist-in-residence," Kish home store is showcasing several Filipino-inspired wooden furniture pieces by Laguna-based artist Ernest Santiago. The exhibit at Kish in Greenbelt 3 will run up to Sept. 19.

The couturier-turned-furniture designer drew inspiration from the moon, ball, squash and other round objects to fashion a 78-piece collection grouped into 21 sets of new and found objects made primarily of Philippine hardwood such as *balayong*, *kamagong* and *mapilig*.

"No new trees were felled to make these furniture pieces," says Santiago. "It was fun yet challenging to incorporate various cuts and types of wood into a single furniture piece."

The Labo, for instance, is an upright wooden cabinet that fuses Tagalog and Maranao elements. A double door made of wooden cutouts is Tagalog in origin, while the two pairs of minaret-like accents on the cabinet's top is clearly inspired by the South.

"Since it's made of *gijo* (a type of Philippine wood), the cabinet is both attractive and durable," says Santiago. "The cutouts are both functional and aesthetic as they allow air to circulate freely within the cabinet."

Some pieces are also a mix of the old and the relatively new. Made from a slab of petrified *molave*, the Kalabasa stands on two feet made of *balayong* and fashioned to look like, well, round if almost perfect pairs of *kalabasa* (squash).

This and a few other pieces will readily appeal to people who go for the distressed look. With their wooden surfaces cracked and gnarled with time, the pieces look weathered but sturdy.

"After having them thoroughly cleaned, I

ERNEST/ E4

Robinsons Department Store

Stitches in Style

Julia

A Robinsons Exclusive

www.[illegible]com.ph

Fashion everyday

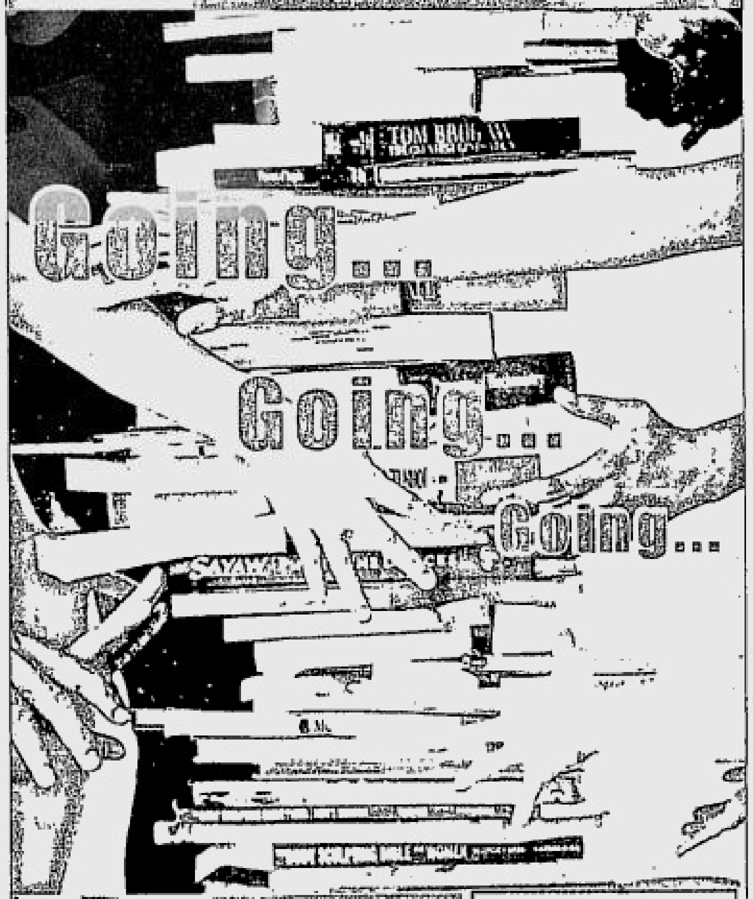
Robinsons Galleria | Robinsons Place Manila | Robinsons Metro East

BOOK CUT-PRICE SALE

NEWSFLASH

Up to 70% SAVINGS ON ALL BOOKS!

AUGUST 15 TO SEPTEMBER 15, 2003 ONLY!



BOOK CUT-PRICE SALE

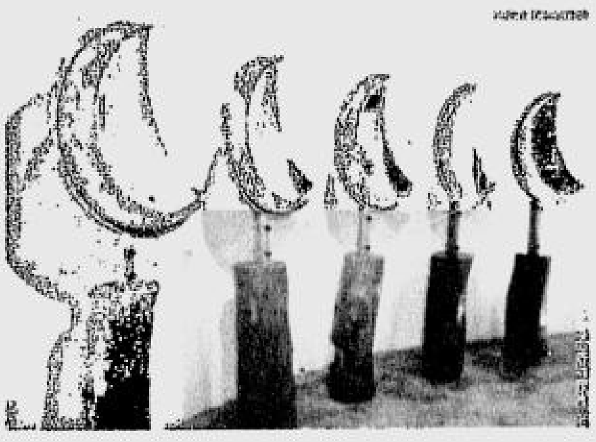
PLUS!
Get a FREE pocket dictionary with a minimum book purchase of P1,000.00
See poster for more details.

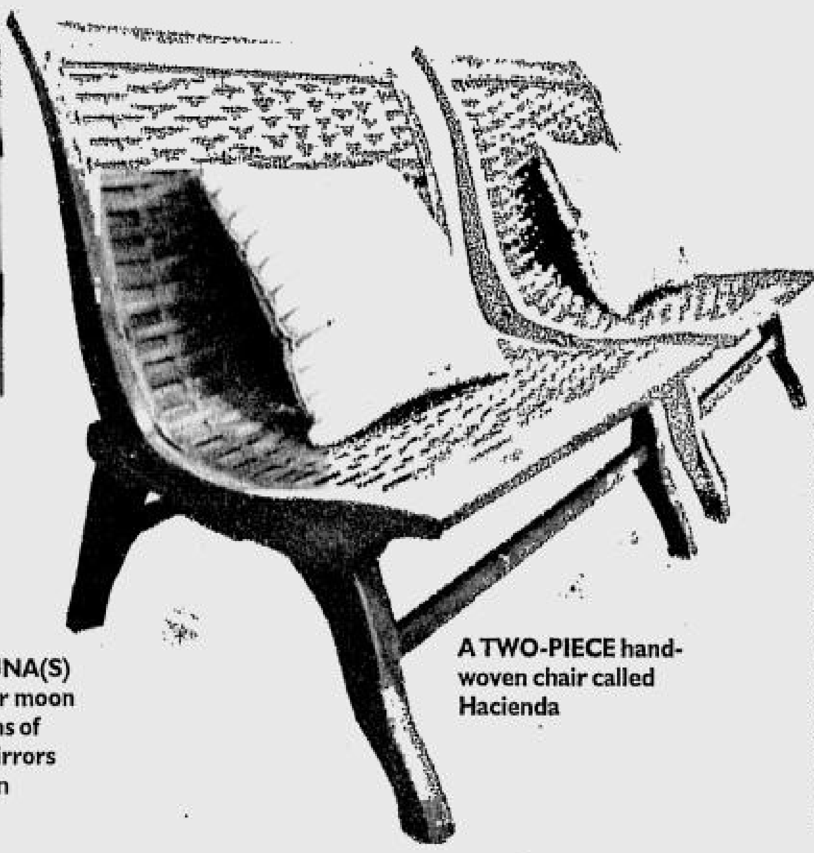
DON'T WAIT TOO LONG!

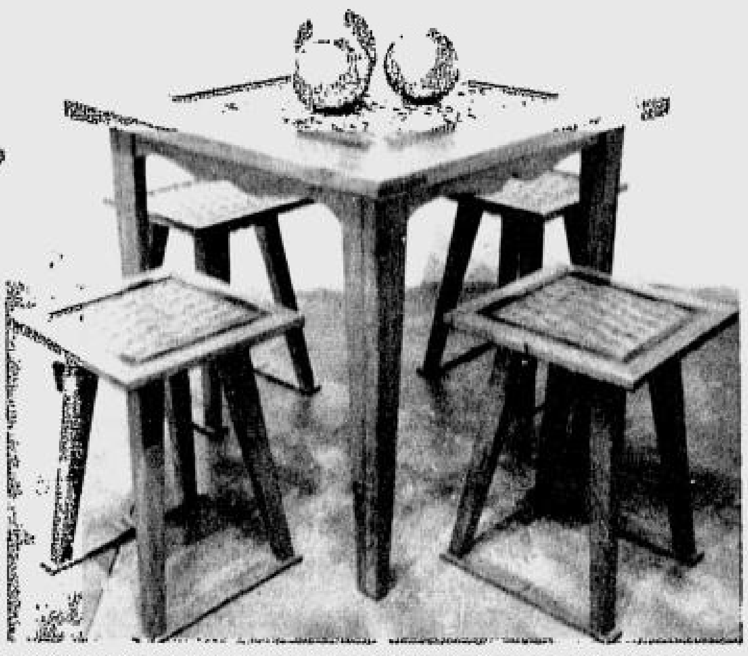
National Book Store

PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. 3208 SERIES OF 2003

NAYON doubles as a console and buffet table made of *molave*.


CINCO LUNA(S) are quarter moon installations of beveled mirrors standing on *molave*.


A TWO-PIECE hand-woven chair called Hacienda


SENYORITA consists of a table and four stools made of *molave* and hand-woven bamboo.

Ernest . . .

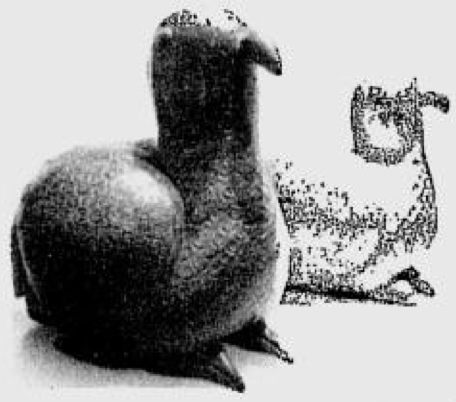
From page E3

had them polished using wax and natural oils. Varnish has no place in my workshop," says Santiago, who, with a team of four men, finished the collection in four months.

Santiago's love for combining various materials into a cohesive whole is evident in Lampungan, a day bed with *molave* for its frame and hand-woven bamboo for its seat and backrest. He then accented the pale *molave* wood with dark *kamagong* inlay, and interspersed the backrest with sheets of beveled glass and circular wooden patterns.

Kamagong inlay shaped like the moon in its various phases has also found its way in a number of smaller tabletops. Santiago's "Cinco Lunas" is a collection of mirrors shaped like a quarter moon, each standing on a sturdy *molave* trunk. Indeed, Santiago can't help but be moonstruck.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph


SANTIAGO calls this two-piece hand-carved figures made of *yakal* Ebun.

THE KALABASA is a salad bar made from petrified *molave* with feet made of *balayon* and shaped like squash.

SENYORA lounge chair with footrest made of *molave* with *kamagong* inlay

big R Supercenter

HOME Fair In Living Colors

PROMO DURATION SEPTEMBER 5 - 11, 2003

STRIPED BATH TOWEL 61 X 120CM (24" X 48") P111.00 REG. PRICE P139.00
STRIPED HAND TOWEL 38 X 76CM (15" X 30") P39.20 REG. PRICE P49.00
KITCHEN TOWEL P29.50 - 36.00 REG. PRICE P36.50 - 39.00
TRIANGULAR HAMPER P259.00 REG. PRICE P285.75
NON WOVEN MOP P199.00 REG. PRICE P248.75
BOOKCASE W/ 1 DOOR P940.00 REG. PRICE P1,050.00
4 PC BED IN A BAG (SINGLE) P1,540.50 REG. PRICE P3,079.75
SANYO CTV 21 INCH P7,359.00 REG. PRICE P7,895.00
FREE 12 PC. STARTER SET
SANYO REFRIGERATOR 7 CU. FT. SINGLE DOOR P8,679.00 REG. PRICE P9,315.00
YELLOW CANISTER W/ MUSHROOM DESIGN P119 - 140.00 REG. PRICE P149.00 - 179.00
WHITE CANISTER W/ GREEN PRINT P119 - 150.00 REG. PRICE P149.00 - 169.00
FREE SALAD BOWL
SQUARE FOODKEEPER P100.00 REG. PRICE P125.00
BUY ONE TAKE ONE
KIDDIE TABLE P339.00 REG. PRICE P420.00
BUY ONE TAKE ONE
MONOBLOC STOOL P99.00 REG. PRICE P123.75
BUY ONE TAKE ONE
WINNER BASKETBALL ORANGE P169.00 REG. PRICE P179.00

Get free exciting prizes for a minimum purchase of P300.00 from participating Home departments!

NO MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED

STORE HOURS 7:00AM - 10:00PM.

BIG R SUPERCENTER NOVALICHES : ROBINSONS PLACE NOVALICHES, 1199 QUIRINO HIGHWAY COR. MALIGAYA RD. NOVALICHES, QC. TEL# 9386805-09
BIG R SUPERCENTER METRO EAST : ROBINSONS METRO EAST, MARCOS HIGHWAY, COR. IMELDA AVENUE, PASIG CITY TEL# 6822230-37
BIG R SUPERCENTER STARMILLS : ROBINSONS STARMILLS, OLONGAPO - GAPAN ROAD, SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA TEL# (045) 875-1935
BIG R SUPERCENTER STA. ROSA : ROBINSONS PLACE STA. ROSA OLD NATIONAL HIGHWAY, BRGY. TAGAPO, STA. ROSA LAGUNA (049) 8374290
BIG R SUPERCENTER CAGAYAN DE ORO : ROBINSONS BIG R SUPERCENTER, ROSARIO CRESCENT COR. FLORENTINO ST. LIMKETKAI CENTER, CAGAYAN DE ORO (088) 8567720
10AM - 10PM (MON - FRI) AND 9AM - 10 PM (SAT & SUN)

NOW OPEN!
BIG R SUPERCENTER DASMARIÑAS: ROBINSONS PLACE DASMARINAS, AGUINALDO HIGHWAY COR. GOVERNOR'S DRIVE SITIO PALAPALA,
BRGY. SAMPALOC DASMARIÑAS, CAVITE TEL # (046) 8521234

PER DTI-NCR PERMIT # 3622 SERIES OF 2003

ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

Work out to work in

LIFE-STYLED

Thelma Sioson San Juan

AFTER a weekend used up by meetings in Cebu, I felt I needed a Monday morning all to myself before another week's march to battle.

In my book, a swell I-love-myself time is a good sweat—self-induced sweat, not corporate-induced.

Monday morning spent in the gym is a luxurious sin for the working class like us. But sometimes you must commit it to salvage not only the body but also the mind. I shoved myself into an ongoing class at Fitness Advantage (Alabang), the only gym I know which sustains an almost-hourly cardio-exercise class regardless of attendance. The classes range from step aero and tone, dance, power yoga, cross training and stretch, to Pilates, kickboxing and fitness yoga.

You know you're in good hands because the instructors are seasoned, so tuned in to each student that they tell you if your movement is correct or not, and more important, they're no show-offs unlike in many gyms. They're there to guide you into a good workout, not to show you down. You have their personal attention. That's important and quite rare, in many of today's gyms that are so crowded you feel like you're in a mall and where trying to spot the instructor in the crush is as futile as finding a good politician. The crowded assembly-line gyms have become as stressful as the workplace, where the instructor-member ratio is so lopsided that the instructors can hardly attend to you. Obviously Fitness Advantage has fought off the trend to overcommercialize, even, as I learned, to the point of turning down an expansion proposal that would make it compromise its service commitment to fitness and health. Like I said, its founder Tina Juan practices what she writes.

Going back to that morning class, it was cross-training and stretch, my first time to try the slide.

On a slick mat on the floor you slide and scoop, raise your

WORK/ E3

Real People. True Stories.

"Now great skin runs in the family – thanks to Imedeen!"

Cynthia Elazegui Sanchez,
41, HR Manager
Cristy Elazegui Puzon,
40, Airline Ticketing Supervisor

Like all sisters, they share secrets. Like the beauty secret that keeps them looking so young for their age.

"I learned of Imedeen thru my colleague," Cristy confides. "I immediately convinced Cynthia to try it." Pretty soon, both sisters were hooked, and for good reason. "I thought my sunspots and blemishes were there for good – but now they're completely gone," Cynthia shares. "My skin really improved. Feeling ko parang skin ng baby," declares Cristy. That's because only Imedeen helps nourish and strengthen the inner layer of the skin, resulting in more youthful, brighter and even skin tone.

"We're each other's best friends," Cynthia exclaims. 'But we both agree, ang best friend ng skin namin is Imedeen!"

Imedeen. The Skin Care Tablet.

Ultrasound images of the skin structure: denser structure implies better support and ability to hold moisture

Clinically Proven

The Skin Care Tablet

Find out more! Call the Derma Hotline 753-1132
For more stories of real women, www.imedeen.com

LIGHTS, CAMERA AUCTION

Call out your best bid to own any of these brand new, amazing items at the Country's First-ever Supercenter Auction!

call our wiseline at 9113507
www.shopwise.com.ph

Items for bid: September 5 to September 14

September 5, 2003
GR-D30U .423 cm, 680,000 PIXEL CCD/520 lines of resolution w/ Super high-band processor / 2.5 LCD,16x optical 700x digital/DV input-output.

September 6, 2003
Compaq Presario 2129 w/ HP Printer, Intel Mobile Pentium 4, 2.0GHz, 128Mb DDRAM memory, 30GB Hard Disk, 24x CD-ROM Drive, 14.1 XGA TFI Display, Windows XP Home Edition.

September 7, 2003
Line: Champion, Age: 2-3 months Color: Tricolor, Sex: Male.(all puppies are complete with papers and shots).

September 8, 2003
1 rectangular table (160 x 90 x 76 cm) 2 arm chairs, 4 side chairs made of New Zealand pine wood in walnut finish and beige woven fabric (Hurgada collection).

September 9, 2003
53.34cm CTV/ AV Multi System / Real Flat Picture Tube / Digital Picture Circuit DVD Component Input.

September 10, 2003
W65 x L70 x H65 cms., Reclining Chair with two buttons.
*Actual item in Black Leatherette

September 11, 2003
Sony PS2 300 Mhz processor, with clear and mesmerizing graphics CD/DVD player.

September 12, 2003
STX125, 125cc 4-stroke, 4 speed transmission, service warranty of 6 months or 6,000 kms. with galvanized iron sidecar. LTO registration and TPL registration is for winning bidder's account.

September 13, 2003
.46 diamond ring by La Elegancia, 18k white gold, single stone.

September 14, 2003
Roundtrip tickets for two via Philippine Airlines. Travel anytime between Sept. 1, 2003- Feb. 29, 2004. Except on Dec. 12, 2003 -Jan. 31, 2004.

Retail prices quoted as of date of purchase by Shopwise.
From August 1 to September 14, 2003

Sponsors:
Carefree Closeup Surf Axion Rejoice Downy Coca-Cola Century Tuna Kotex

SHOPWISE

See In-Store Posters and Flyers for Details, Per DTI-NCR Permit No., 2077, Series of 2003
* Approved by DTI-NCR

ALABANG [illegible] Festival Supermall [illegible] MAKATI Corner of Pasong Tamo and Vito Cruz Extension LIBIS 150 E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue, Bagumbayan, QC

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

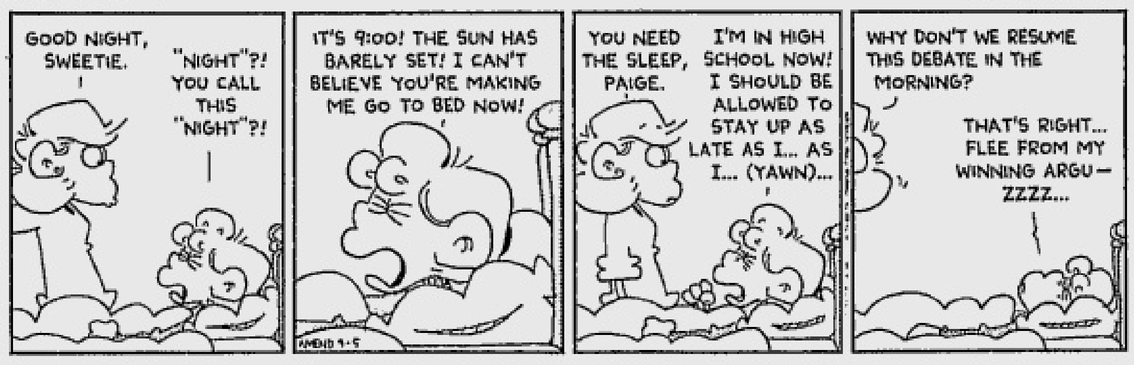
ComicRelief

e-mail feedback at arts@inquirer.com.ph

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2003

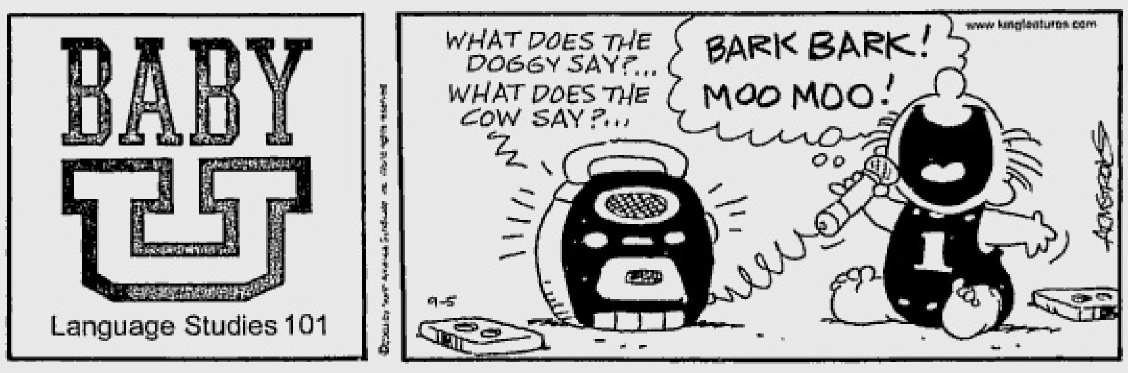
FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


GOOD NIGHT, SWEETIE.
"NIGHT"?! YOU CALL THIS "NIGHT"?!
IT'S 9:00! THE SUN HAS BARELY SET! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE MAKING ME GO TO BED NOW!
YOU NEED THE SLEEP, PAIGE.
I'M IN HIGH SCHOOL NOW! I SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO STAY UP AS LATE AS I... AS I... (YAWN)...
WHY DON'T WE RESUME THIS DEBATE IN THE MORNING?
THAT'S RIGHT... FLEE FROM MY WINNING ARGU— ZZZZ...
AMEND 9-5

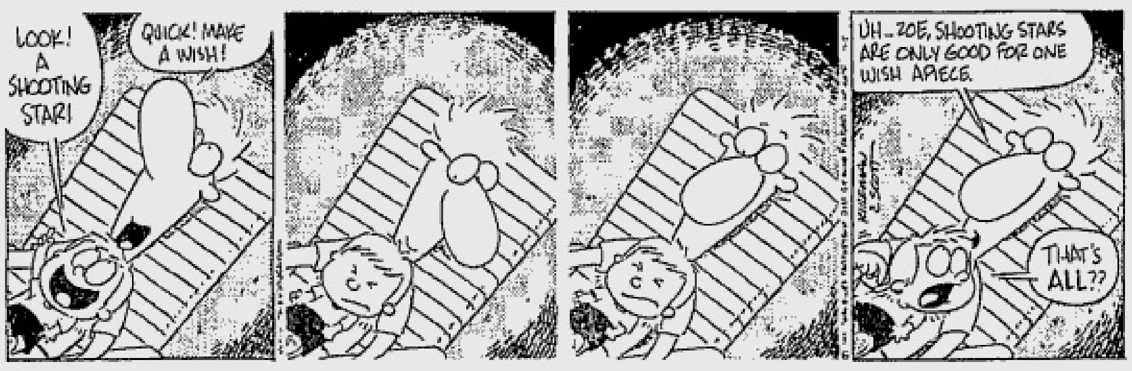
MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


BABY U
Language Studies 101
WHAT DOES THE DOGGY SAY?... WHAT DOES THE COW SAY?...
BARK BARK! MOO MOO!
www.kingfeatures.com
9-5
ARMSTRONG

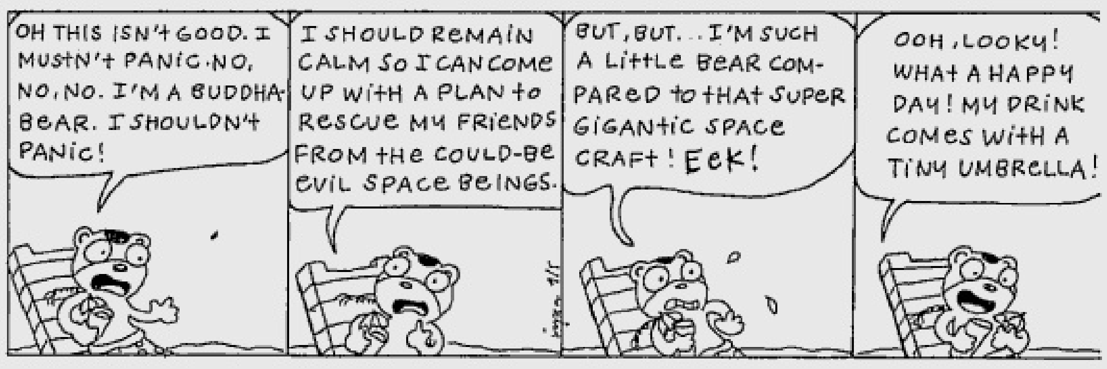
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


LOOK! A SHOOTING STAR!
QUICK! MAKE A WISH!
UH... ZOE, SHOOTING STARS ARE ONLY GOOD FOR ONE WISH APIECE.
THAT'S ALL??

ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


OH THIS ISN'T GOOD. I MUSTN'T PANIC. NO, NO, NO. I'M A BUDDHA BEAR. I SHOULDN'T PANIC!
I SHOULD REMAIN CALM SO I CAN COME UP WITH A PLAN TO RESCUE MY FRIENDS FROM THE COULD-BE EVIL SPACE BEINGS.
BUT, BUT... I'M SUCH A LITTLE BEAR COMPARED TO THAT SUPER GIGANTIC SPACE CRAFT! EEK!
OOH, LOOKY! WHAT A HAPPY DAY! MY DRINK COMES WITH A TINY UMBRELLA!

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You are fun-loving, romantic and full of whimsy. Your alert mind is forever dreaming up new schemes. You have a fabulous imagination! In a way, you need to believe in magic, because your dreams are very important to you. An exciting year lies ahead for you: one of new beginnings, fresh adventure and untried territory.
Birthdate of: Rose McGowan, actress; Freddie Mercury, musician; Raquel Welch, actress.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Be patient at work today. You feel practically obsessive about something. However, this feeling will pass soon—then where will you be?

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Feelings of passion and romance are strong within you today. This is not surprising, considering yours is the most sensuous, tactile sign in the zodiac.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): You might feel a tendency to hang onto somebody today out of fear or insecurity. Perhaps you just want to control the situation. It's important to remember that every relationship needs to change in order to grow.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Because you crave stability in a relationship now, ironically, you might become pushy and demanding.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Use caution when spending money today. Compulsive urges make you buy things impulsively. In truth, everything is a pile of rust waiting to happen.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): Don't blame yourself if you feel you simply have to have your own way today. This is a passing urge. It will be gone by tomorrow. Patience.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Do not let others try to control you out of guilt or manipulation today. If you feel smothered or restricted, that's what's happening.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): There's no point in trying to win an argument with a friend today. As the old saying goes, "There are none so deaf as those who will not hear."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): You want to impress somebody important today. In fact, you want this so much, you're willing to put everything else aside. Ask yourself—is this really that important?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Arguments and debates about political or religious issues can become heated today. Always remember that if someone was not reasoned into a point of view, they cannot be reasoned out of it. (Prejudice runs deep.)

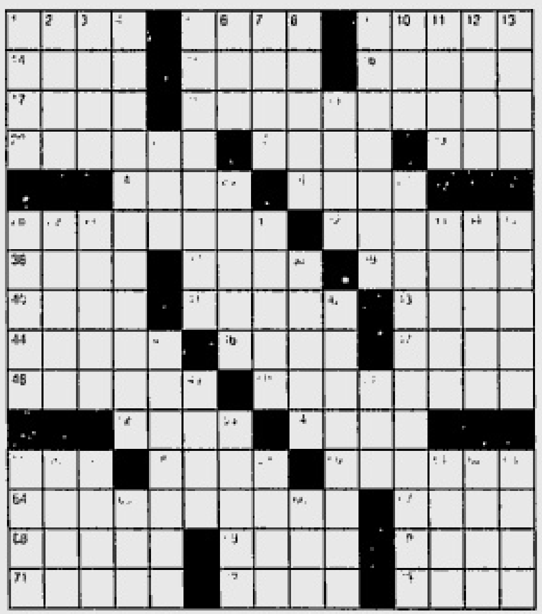
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): You feel protective and possessive about your property today. You want to make sure that you get your fair share of something. That's OK.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): Resist the desire to use underhanded tactics to control a loved one today. This will only create bitterness—not the trust and love that you seek. In fact, it could destroy whatever good will remains between you.

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Part of ABM
5 Heat up
9 Spanish hors d'oeuvres
14 Forsaken
15 Not in port
16 Activity area
17 Important times
18 Helsinki pool hustlers?
20 Walk-on parts
22 Gladly, old-style
23 Slangy refusal
24 Hello, Paolo!
26 River to the Baltic
28 Young bird
32 Motionless states
36 Poetic foot
37 Claim on income
39 Bahamian island
40 Novelist Zane
41 Actress Braga
43 Party letters
44 Gladden
46 Whistle time
47 Man or Dogs
48 Double-check text
50 Slaughterhouse
52 Mmes., in Toledo
54 South Dakota, to Pierre
55 Astern
58 Sailor's hello
60 Gat
64 Hibernation stipulation?
67 Like lots
68 Work table
69 Kind of pudding
70 "__ Brockovich"
71 Seaweeds
72 Vaccines
73 Missile housing

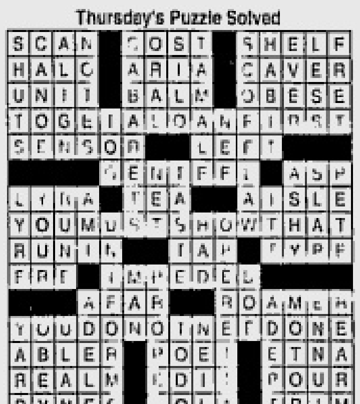
DOWN
1 Smart guy?
2 Asta's movie mistress
3 Trolley car
4 Program bugs?
5 Toasts
6 Blond shade
7 Actual
8 Nintendo hero
9 Fabric with a slight sheen
10 Jackie's second
11 New York station
12 Writer Quindlen
13 Window part
19 Sneakers brand
21 Lubricate
25 Bermuda, for one
27 Beatrix Potter forte?
28 Niamey's nation
29 "Guitar Town" singer Steve
30 Spread lies
31 Type of salami
33 Authority
34 Pathogenic bacteria
35 Serious
38 Daughter of Tantalus
42 Object of loathing
45 Otological problem
49 Willie Wonka's creator
51 Menlo Park initials
53 Lathers
55 "Fernando" group
56 Touch
57 Sharp taste
59 Christmas
61 Spelling or Amos
62 Wicked
63 Slots mecca
65 TV brand
66 Big __, CA



By Jack Hammond
Savannah, GA

9/5/03

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

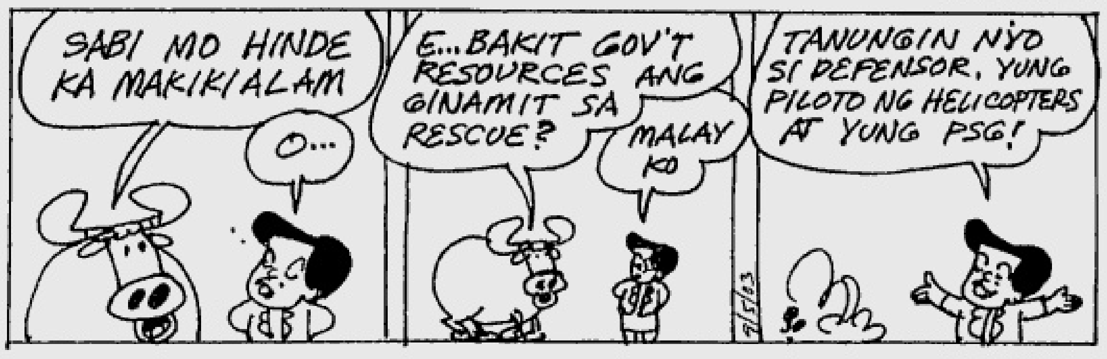


(C)2003 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All rights reserved.

9/5/03

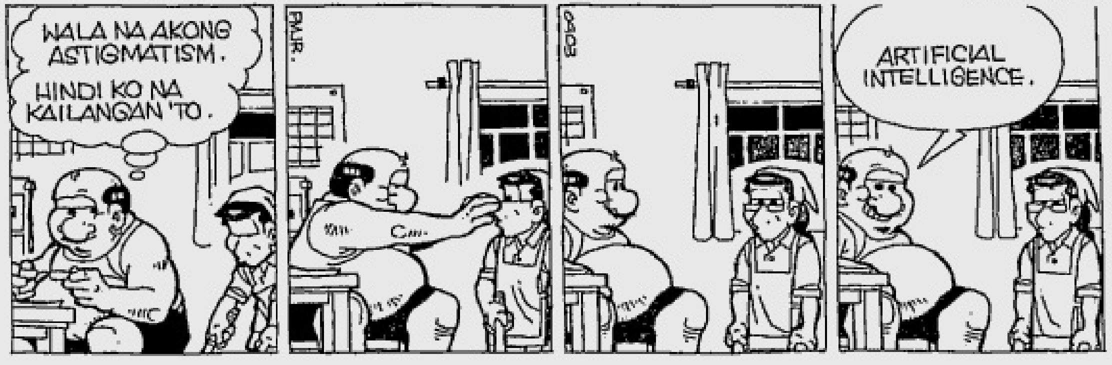
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


SABI MO HINDE KA MAKIKIALAM
O...
E...BAKIT GOV'T RESOURCES ANG GINAMIT SA RESCUE?
MALAY KO
TANUNGIN NYO SI DEFENSOR, YUNG PILOTO NG HELICOPTERS AT YUNG PSG!
9/5/03

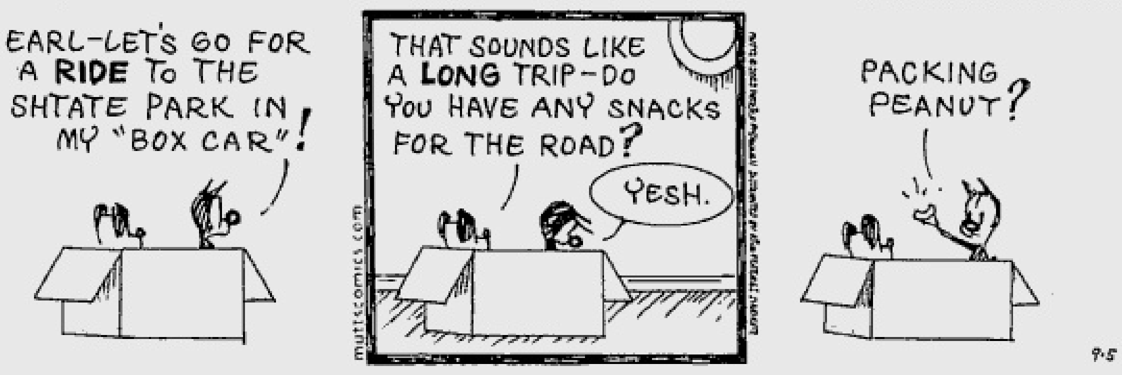
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


WALA NA AKONG ASTIGMATISM.
HINDI KO NA KAILANGAN 'TO.
PMJR.
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

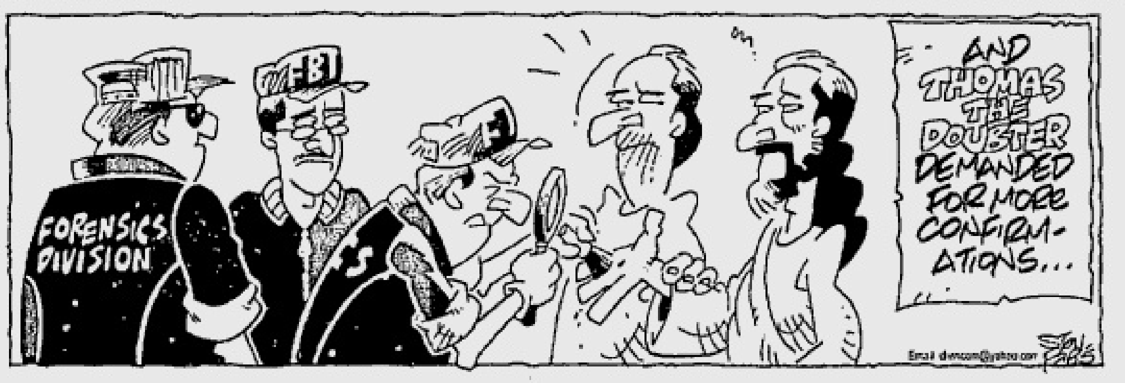
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


EARL—LET'S GO FOR A RIDE TO THE SHTATE PARK IN MY "BOX CAR"!
THAT SOUNDS LIKE A LONG TRIP—DO YOU HAVE ANY SNACKS FOR THE ROAD?
YESH.
muttscomics.com
PACKING PEANUT?
9·5

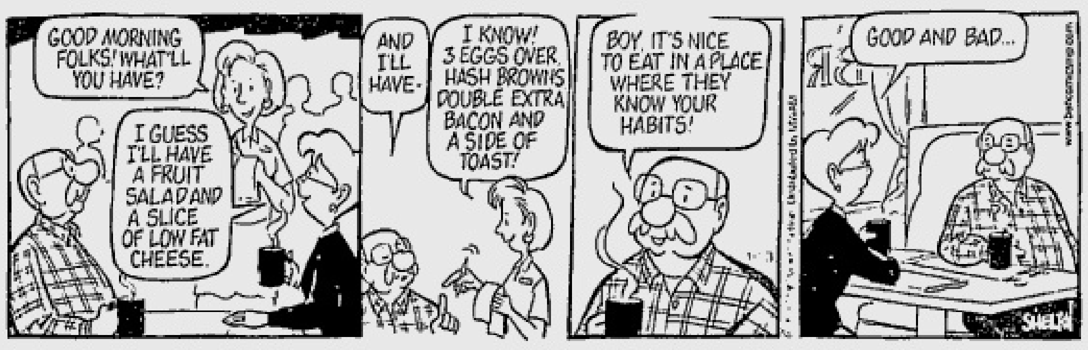
DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS


FORENSICS DIVISION
FBI
AND THOMAS THE DOUBTER DEMANDED FOR MORE CONFIRMATIONS...
STEVE PABS

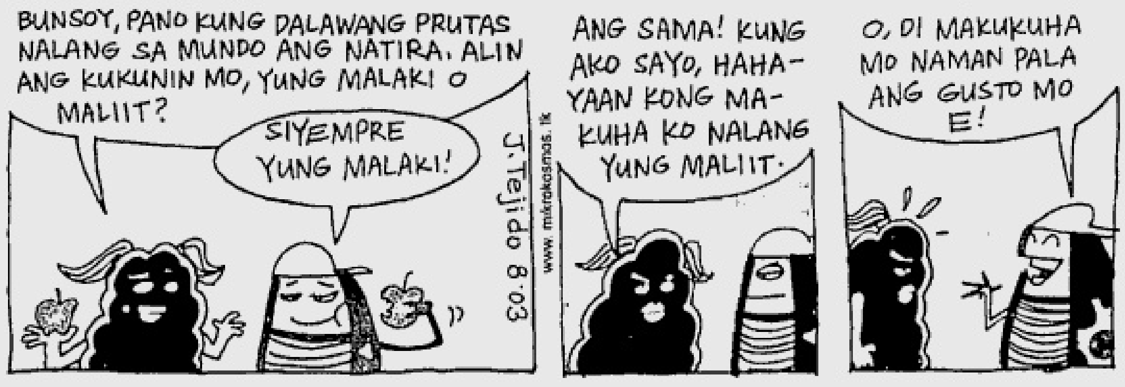
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


GOOD MORNING FOLKS! WHAT'LL YOU HAVE?
I GUESS I'LL HAVE A FRUIT SALAD AND A SLICE OF LOW FAT CHEESE.
AND I'LL HAVE-
I KNOW! 3 EGGS OVER, HASH BROWNS, DOUBLE EXTRA BACON AND A SIDE OF TOAST!
BOY, IT'S NICE TO EAT IN A PLACE WHERE THEY KNOW YOUR HABITS!
GOOD AND BAD...
SHELTON

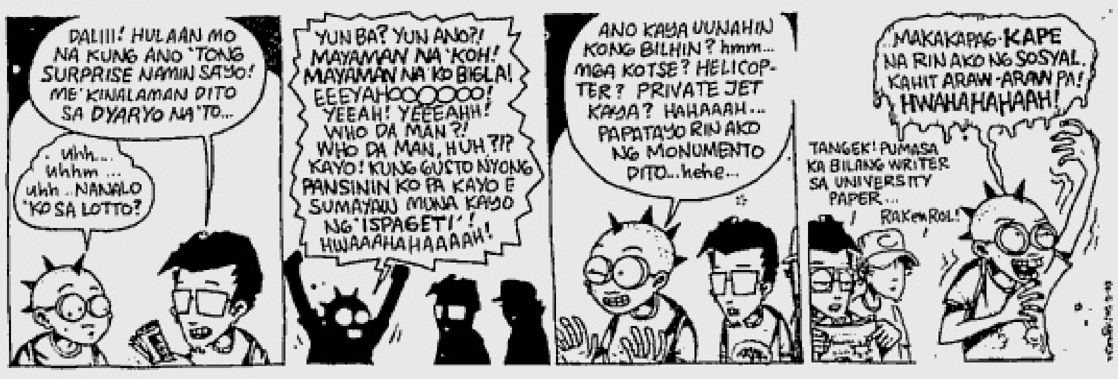
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


BUNSOY, PANO KUNG DALAWANG PRUTAS NALANG SA MUNDO ANG NATIRA. ALIN ANG KUKUNIN MO, YUNG MALAKI O MALIIT?
SIYEMPRE YUNG MALAKI!
J. Tejido 8.03
www.mikrokosmos.tk
ANG SAMA! KUNG AKO SAYO, HAHAYAAN KONG MAKUHA KO NALANG YUNG MALIIT.
O, DI MAKUKUHA MO NAMAN PALA ANG GUSTO MO E!

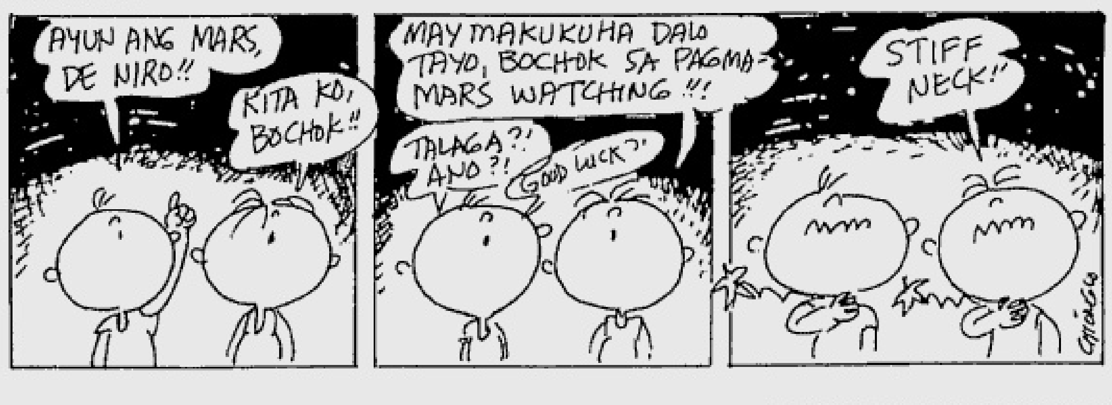
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


DALIII! HULAAN MO NA KUNG ANO 'TONG SURPRISE NAMIN SAYO! ME' KINALAMAN DITO SA DYARYO NA'TO...
uhh... uhhm... uhh.. NANALO 'KO SA LOTTO?
YUN BA? YUN ANO?! MAYAMAN NA 'KOH! MAYAMAN NA 'KO BIGLA! EEEYAHOOOOOOO! YEEAH! YEEEAHH! WHO DA MAN?! WHO DA MAN, HUH?!? KAYO! KUNG GUSTO NYONG PANSININ KO PA KAYO E SUMAYAW MUNA KAYO NG 'ISPAGETI'! HWAAAHAHAAAAH!
ANO KAYA UUNAHIN KONG BILHIN? hmm... MGA KOTSE? HELICOPTER? PRIVATE JET KAYA? HAHAAAH... PAPATAYO RIN AKO NG MONUMENTO DITO...hehe...
MAKAKAPAG-KAPE NA RIN AKO NG SOSYAL. KAHIT ARAW-ARAW PA! HWAHAHAHAAH!
TANGEK! PUMASA KA BILANG WRITER SA UNIVERSITY PAPER...
RAKenROL!

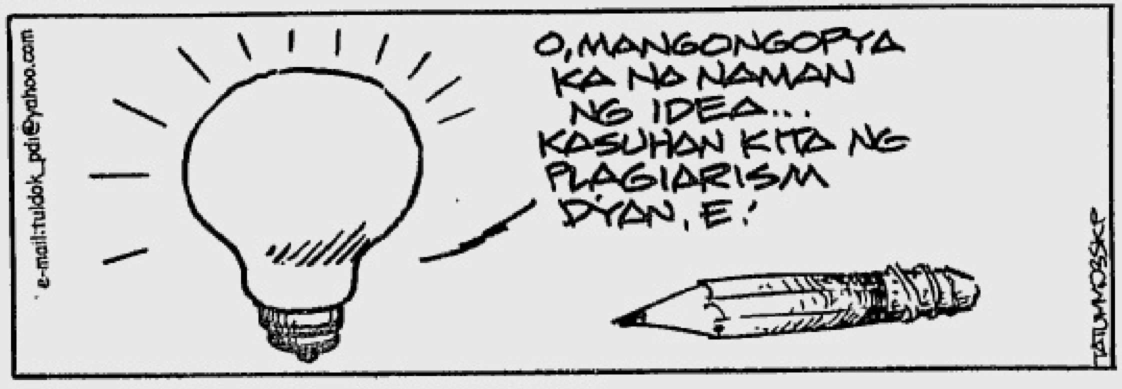
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


AYUN ANG MARS, DE NIRO!!
KITA KO, BOCHOK!!
MAY MAKUKUHA DAW TAYO, BOCHOK SA PAGMA-MARS WATCHING!!!
TALAGA?! ANO?!
GOOD LUCK?
STIFF NECK!!
CHIONGLO

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


e-mail:tuldok_pdi@yahoo.com
O, MANGONGOPYA KA NA NAMAN NG IDEA... KASUHAN KITA NG PLAGIARISM DYAN, E!
TATUMOBSKI

Grandma has 'computer problem'

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

Maybe I should address you as Madam Dulce, because I am a 55-year-old grandmother, sometimes even feeling older than my age. My problem is due to our modern age; let me explain.

My son and daughter-in-law are both working abroad, and my 8-year-old grandson is now under my care. No problems here, because he has a *yaya* and there is more than enough budget for our daily needs.

My problem? My grandson wants me to buy a computer so he can practice on it at home. He is only a second grader, but they already have computer assignments in school. However, there are only four computers in their classroom, and he would like to have more time on one. He says he can also send Internet messages to his parents.

Very soon, my son will send me extra money to buy a computer. You stated before in your column that "you cannot teach an old dog new tricks," but I do hope to be able to learn how to use one. Do I have to go to a school to learn how to use one?

I retired from my job five years ago to attend full-time to the family business, but I still want to be mentally active, which is why I would like to live with a computer to get in touch with the whole world.

Can you tell me where I can go to learn how to use a computer? When I buy one, will the seller be able to teach me?

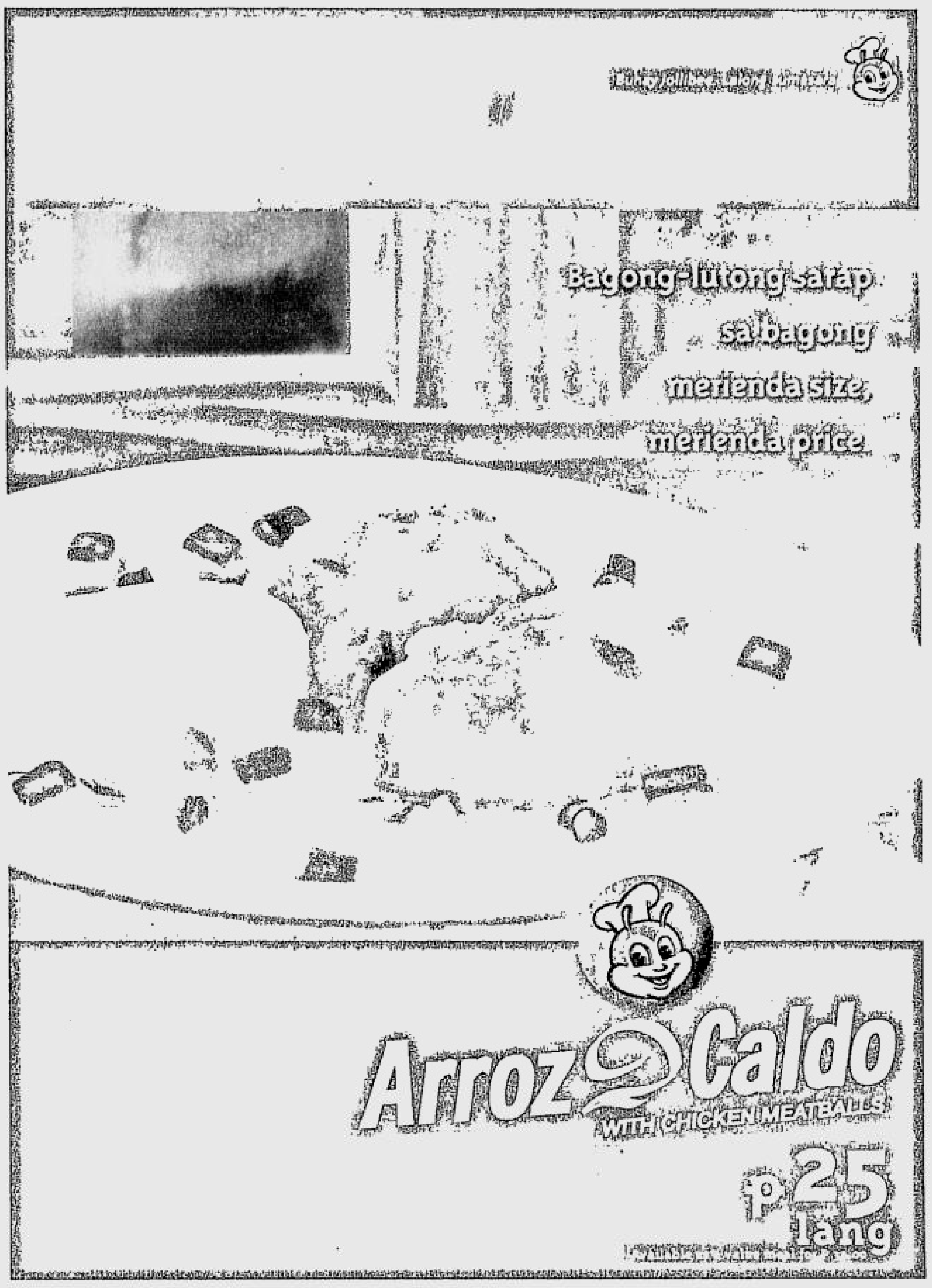
AMBITIOUS LOLA

You can enroll at the AMA Computer Learning Center. You can find their telephone number in the directory to get their address. You did not give me your home address, but judging from the postmark of your letter, I surmised where you live.

Call Mr. Ed Buhay at 4229144. He does computer tutorials and he can also tell you where to buy one. You live near where he is, which is one good reason for you to go to him, as it saves you from taking a taxi or a jeep on your new learning venture. Good luck.

And just call me Tita. I am also a grandmother with seven grandchildren. My 7-year-old granddaughter also uses the Internet, so it is time for oldies like us to also learn how and avoid being left behind in the vacuum of time.

E-mail titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to PO Box 2353, Makati CPO 1263 Makati City.



Work out to work in

From page F1

knees or legs, do lunges and so on. The basic movements are those of step aero except that instead of a bench, you use a slide. I liked it because it's not all power and speed, but you try to achieve control and balance, smooth instead of forceful and jerky movements (as in kickboxing).

The movements look deceivingly smooth and easy but, in fact, they work out your thighs, knees, hips real good, and when you twist, your feet sliding from one end to the other, you squeeze those abs.

The slide cardio is capped with toning and more abs exercises. I don't think the slide became as popular here as, say, kickboxing. According to Tina, it has been around since 1994. She had been doing it in her small classes at home back then, but it never really took off here or abroad. It remains one of the cross-training options.

Perhaps because I wasn't used to the slide as cross-training, I was sweating after a few minutes. The can-do feeling was exhilarating.

Indeed, putting a corporate stiff like me in the gym on a Monday morning is like letting a shopaholic loose with a plastic. I drool just looking, take note: looking, not doing, not yet, the fitness options. Aside from weight training, our gym at Fitness now has Red Corner, punch aero and wall climbing. One room is hanging with punching bags for punch aero, which I should try one of these days, outside of office environment. Good for one's homicidal passion. In the center of the main room is the boxing ring. That morning there was a girl trying it out, sparring with the trainer, and she was good.

My 17-year-old son who also goes to this gym (different hours from mom, of course) told me he'd try boxing one of these days. When I replied that I would as well, he said, "Not for cardio, Ma, real boxing."

I said, "Me, too, real boxing."

He didn't say a word to that. Anyway, it's safe to assume that today's kids don't want their mom in the same ring as theirs, not a boxing ring. (My kids are sooo "lucky," they have a mom they can't shoo away like a butterfly.)

More and more girls are trying boxing, not just kickboxing, but real boxing.

I notice a Fitness staffer, Mackie, has become so trim and toned after regular boxing. Well toned, not hunk-muscular.

Anyway, I treated myself to such adrenaline rush last Monday morning.

There's nothing like a good sweat. It's one way of working into your inner balance. Work out to work in. You deserve it.

Jimmy Choo here

It's raining brands. Rustan's is bringing in Jimmy Choo, Stuart Weitzman, Marc Jacobs, among others. It's opening a shoe salon in November. Indeed, for these brands, the way to go is Asia (China, you mean).

Bulakeño talent

Of course, the morning news gives you morning sickness. That's why Filipinos are trying their best to do something about what they can do something about, trying to change what they have control over, be it their backyard, community or provinces.

The Bulakeños are in a bugle-call mood. They're celebrating the tradition of excellence of the province, be it in the arts, commerce, crafts, literature, cuisine. The Dangal ng Bulacan Foundation Inc. is holding "Sining Bulacan" at the Barasoain Museum and Innercourt in Malolos from Sept. 8-15.

There'll be a food and folk arts festival Sept. 11-15; an exhibit of the works of Joya, Malang and other Bulakeños on Sept. 8-15; a literary arts forum on Sept. 13; and a visual arts forum on Sept. 13.

The foundation board includes Deogracias Vistan (chair), Remedios Macalincag (CEO), Jaime Laya and Isabel Nazal.

E-mail the author at tsanjuan@skyinet.net

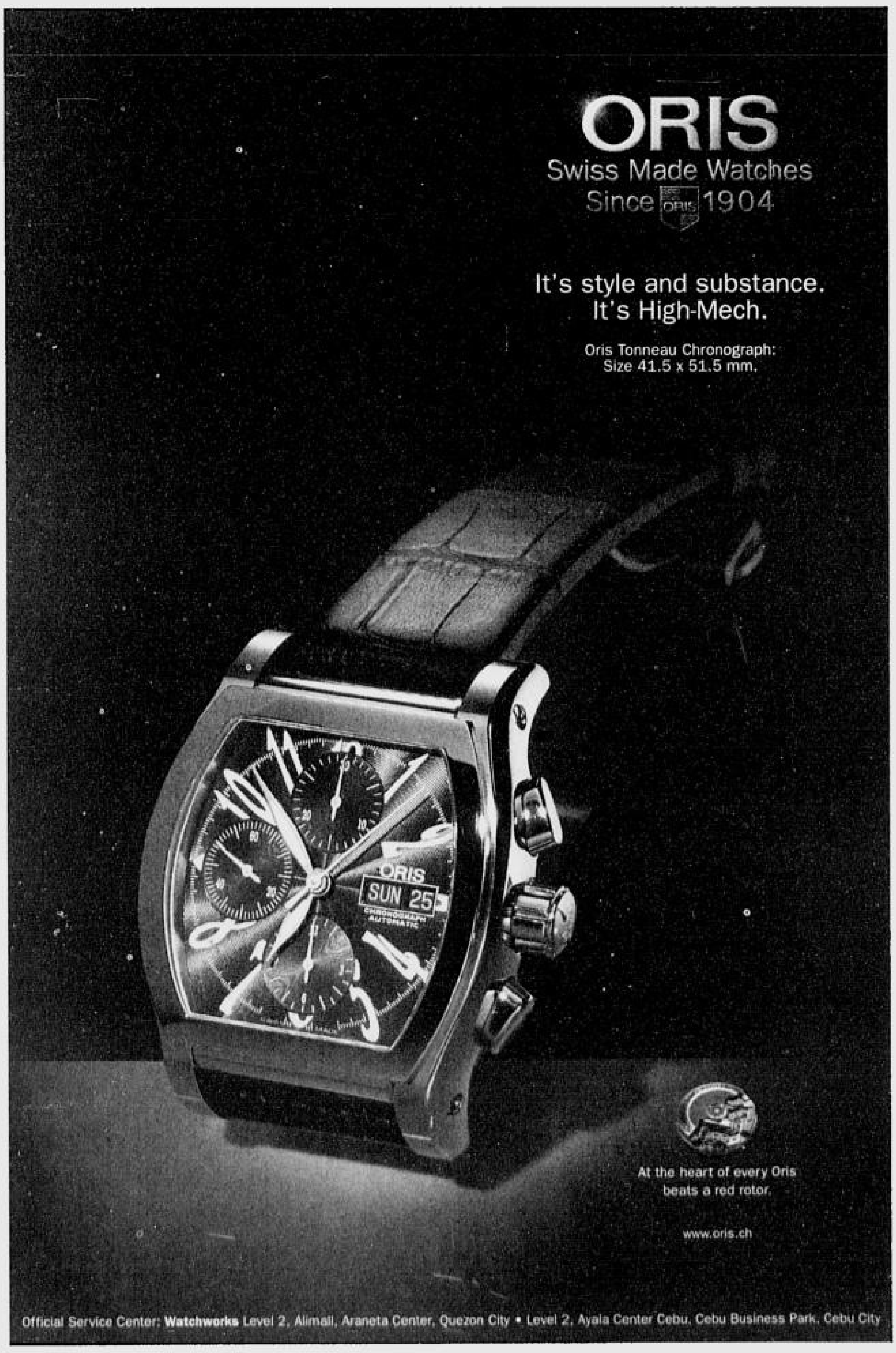
KOMORO SOBA
Japanese Restaurant
JAPAN'S POPULAR FAST FOOD CHAIN
小諸そば
SM CITY BICUTAN
UPPER GROUND FLOOR BUILDING B
AYALA GLORIETTA
SECOND LEVEL GLORIETTA 1
SM MEGAMALL
UPPER GROUND FLOOR BUILDING A

Get a free Lipton Ice tea (250ml)
For every Bento Box using This coupon at any of our Branches.
PLS. PRESENT THIS COUPON BEFORE ORDERING.
VALID FOR DINE IN ONLY.
THIS PROMO IS GOOD UNTIL OCTOBER 15 2003. PER DTI-NCR PERMIT #3260 SERIES OF 2003

Get a free Lipton Ice tea (250ml)
For every Bento Box using This coupon at any of our Branches.
PLS. PRESENT THIS COUPON BEFORE ORDERING.
VALID FOR DINE IN ONLY.
THIS PROMO IS GOOD UNTIL OCTOBER 15 2003. PER DTI-NCR PERMIT #3260 SERIES OF 2003

Get a free Lipton Ice tea (250ml)
For every Bento Box using This coupon at any of our Branches.
PLS. PRESENT THIS COUPON BEFORE ORDERING.
VALID FOR DINE IN ONLY.
THIS PROMO IS GOOD UNTIL OCTOBER 15 2003. PER DTI-NCR PERMIT #3260 SERIES OF 2003

Get a free Lipton Ice tea (250ml)
For every Bento Box using This coupon at any of our Branches.
PLS. PRESENT THIS COUPON BEFORE ORDERING.
VALID FOR DINE IN ONLY.
THIS PROMO IS GOOD UNTIL OCTOBER 15 2003. PER DTI-NCR PERMIT #3260 SERIES OF 2003


ORIS
Swiss Made Watches
Since 1904
It's style and substance.
It's High-Mech.
Oris Tonneau Chronograph:
Size 41.5 x 51.5 mm.
At the heart of every Oris beats a red rotor.
www.oris.ch
Official Service Center: Watchworks Level 2, Alimall, Araneta Center, Quezon City • Level 2, Ayala Center Cebu, Cebu Business Park, Cebu City

Out of a book, a marine sanctuary

SEEING GREEN

Doris Gaskell Nuyda

> 'Laws of Nature and Other Stories' is a must-read for anyone who makes decisions affecting the environment

WHEN environmental lawyer Antonio A. Oposa Jr. published his book, "The Laws of Nature and Other Stories," this year, it was to inspire Filipinos, especially the youth, to appreciate the bounties of nature around them and love and care for them for future generations to enjoy.

Having finished the book (as well as its companion piece, "A Legal Arsenal for the Philippine Environment") which took him 15 years and an entire inheritance to complete, he is now turning his energies—and the books' proceeds—on yet another environmental project. It may be said that the second project will be largely dependent on the first.

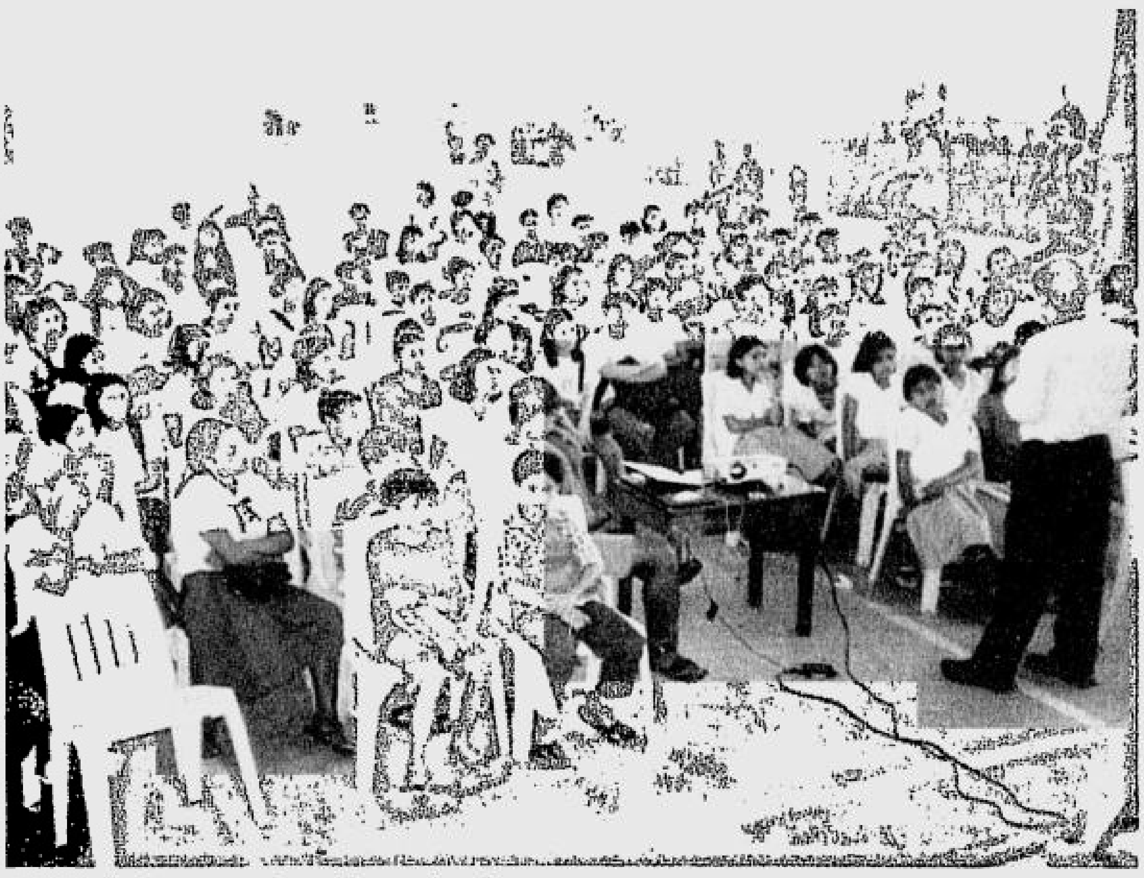
The new project is the Bantayan Island Marine Sanctuary where he has established a Marine Enforcement Center and Youth Camp. There, people can enjoy as they learn about marine life and how to conserve it.

Bantayan Island is located just off Cebu, Oposa's hometown, and is said to be the "navel" of the Visayan Sea, which in turn is part of the Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Triangle, known for its rich marine ecosystem.

Oposa chose Bantayan because of its location and because he owns a beach house there, Villa Rosario, which he has donated to the sanctuary and now serves as headquarters for marine enforcement operations and learning activities.

As a marine enforcement center, it has a detachment of maritime police, coast guards, Navy Seals, local fishermen, among them reformed dynamite fishermen, collectively called The Team Bantayan, who apprehend violators of fishing laws.

At last, says Oposa, violators are being arrested and convicted, referring to the impunity with which such violations were committed in the past. But instead of sending the guilty party to jail where he stays idle, he can apply for probation on condition that he serves the community in various ways, mostly in the prevention of crimes like the one he himself had committed.



OPOSA (back to camera) speaking at a learning camp

ANTONIO Oposa Jr., lawyer and author for the environment

Constructive

Behind this practice is the philosophy that "enforcement (considered a negative act) is nothing unless it is replaced with something positive," in this case, community service.

It is the same thing with the establishment of marine sanctuaries, he adds. Instead of giving people sermons on the evils of destructive fishing, show them how valuable and beautiful our marine resources are and you will be channeling their minds to more constructive ways to catch fish.

The marine enforcement and learning camp is held every month for a weekend with Oposa supervising activities. Twenty youhg people (ages 12-20) are sponsored, and they are usually children of fishermen, students, out-of-school youth and others from nearby towns, all of whom are provided with free board and lodging for the duration of the camp.

Their program is filled with activities from morning till night. There are two regular teachers from Bantayan and a "corps" of faculty volunteers, among them Dr. Boy Amores, Capt. Rudy Estampador, Coast Guard Commodore Gaudencio Peña, landscape architect Joy Onozawa, teachers Erlinds Giducos and Winnie Gulane, pediatrician Dr. Kristin Treñas, environmental consultant Ben Eusebio, Negros Rep. Alfredo Marañon, Toti Menguito, divers Ramon Pinga, Levi Espinosa, Ondo Amores and other fishermen.

After lectures in the classroom, the campers are brought to the sea where they go sailing, swimming, learn scuba diving to see the coral reefs and other wonders of undersea life. In the evening, they hold picnics and bonfires, enjoying themselves as they learn. Best of all, there is no time to be bored.

Oposa finds it doubly rewarding to teach young people because they are most influential with their parents and other adults. Often, it is they who inform their elders about what is wrong about some of their practices, and the better way of doing it. That is why Oposa has dedicated his book to them, represented by his youngest son, Nano.

And just as rewarding for Oposa is to be informed that since the marine enforcement and learning camp began operations in November 2002, there have been no reports of illegal activity in the area.

Typically, Oposa's energies have been recharged by these reports. Next year, he says, he will set up learning camps in neighboring islands to teach young people the same things, eventually "sanitizing" the Visayan Sea of illegal and harmful activities.

Empowerment

His agenda includes identification of hotspots and legal empowerment workshops for fish wardens, police officers and LGUs whose participation and cooperation are vital to the conservation and maintenance of the rich natural resources under their care.

He is depending largely on the proceeds of his books' sales and his own finances to get those plans going since he is not getting any endowment or grant, foreign or local, nor is he practicing law anymore, having made a commitment to the environment, like a priest who vows to work only for God.

Oposa's book, incidentally, is one of the few, if not the only one, by a Filipino author that includes spiritual insights along with scientific and technological aspects of the ecology. Unless a book is solely about nature and God or nature and creation, most authors prefer to keep to the physical side of the environment. Seldom are those aspects intertwined.

So now, aside from consultancy work, Oposa has turned to professorial lecturing at the University of the Philippines' College of Law and other academic institutions to leave him the time he needs as an all-out environmentalist, especially since he was just appointed chair of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines' Environmental Law Committee.

His book is a must-read not only for students, but for professionals (like LGUs) who often must make decisions affecting the environment and must therefore make sure they make the right ones. The book directs the reader to that end. For more information on it contact Batas Kalikasan, Oposa's office, at tel. 8096122 or 8093176.

E-mail the author at dorisnuyda@yahoo.com

NOW, MORE SENIORS ARE UNDER OUR WETNESS PROTECTION PROGRAM.
Thanks to
Dr. P
THE #1 ADULT DIAPER
The one with Antibiosis that protects against infection- and odour-causing germs.
Plus a Super Absorbent core pad for extra protection.
No wonder, it's the one more people trust!
STANDARD
M10
Dr. P
ADULT DIAPERS
Peace of Mind. Protection Guaranteed.